

Meeting Summary
REGULAR MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE DAVIS DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

Monday, November 1, 2010
2:10 – 4:00 p.m.
Activities & Recreation Center (ARC), Ballroom A

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1. Transcript of the June 4, 2010 Meeting

ACTION: Motion to approve 6/4/10 RA transcript. Motion seconded and no further discussion. Motion passed by affirmation.

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2. Announcements by the President – None
3. Announcements by the Vice Presidents – None
4. Announcements by the Chancellor – None
5. Announcements by the Deans, Directors or other Executive Officers – None
6. Special Orders

- a. Remarks by ASUCD President – Jack Zwald

ASUCD President Zwald made remarks on current status of minimum progress. He indicated more than 50% of students work and a relaxation of the standards for minimum progress was necessary. He made some announcements, such as the new Coffee House was now open for business. ASUCD's future plans include strengthening the environment.

- b. Remarks by GSA Chair – Brian Riley

GSA Chair Riley touched upon two topics: Shared governance and Social responsibility. He stressed that shared governance should not be merely rhetoric. Unilateral administrative actions do not have moral standing. Social justice, equity, and newer visions of academic excellence are values to be pursued. Cultural pluralism, bravery, competence and wisdom are necessary. Shared governance must include all sectors of the campus. Fair treatment of both undergraduate and graduate students is a must.

- c. Remarks by the Divisional Chair – Robert Powell

Chair Powell welcomed everyone. He recognized Chancellor Linda Katehi who was in attendance. Chair Powell thanked Dan Potter for his work on the Special Committee on Student Evaluation of Teaching Report.

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Chair Powell touched on several topics as noted below:

Minimum progress - the Academic Senate takes this issue seriously.

Post Employment Benefits – a modified version of Option C is being recommended by the President. The state has not provided money and the issue now is how to finance it.

Curricula and streamlining - the Senate is looking at curricula and streamlining possibilities across the campus. A task force is being formed to look into this issue.

Downsizing of UC – What does it look like for UC to downsize? Systemwide is undertaking possibility very seriously.

Futures Committee - How do we want UC Davis to move forward? A report is prepared for presentation at the next Executive Council meeting.

- d. Remarks by and Discussion with UC Academic Senate Vice Chair - Robert Anderson

UC Academic Senate Vice Chair Anderson, elected in March 2010, is slated to be the next Chair of UC's Academic Council. He made remarks on Post Employment Benefits (PEB) and the university budget.

Post Employment Benefits (PEB) - At the age of 65 faculty and staff will enjoy a 2.5% age factor, the maximum allowable. The idea is to have cost reduction. Most faculty are retiring at 65 and will see little effect, but staff who tend to retire earlier, will see reduction in benefits. The president's choice (option C) requires higher employee contributions. Current Chair of UC Academic Council Dan Simmons and R. Anderson both support the president on this issue. The new pension plan will be reasonably competitive.

The budget: This is a daunting task. We are down about 50% in state support. The quality of our operations is affected. How are we going to continue to deliver top notch

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education? There will be quality reductions. The Gould Commission did not address this issue. We are under pressure from the Regents for transfer students to complete their degrees on time. The students see different requirements at different UC campuses for different majors. This is an issue.

Annual Reports for Discussion:

- e. Annual Report of the Committee on Academic Personnel:
 - i. Oversight Committee – Ahmet Palazoglu

Ahmet Palazoglu presented the report. The committee met 40 times and had a total of 410 personnel actions. Although a reduction from the previous year, it was compensated with several policy items, among which were a resolution in spring 2009 regarding faculty searches and streamlining proposals to reduce the workload on FPCs. Since the resolution passed, all faculty appointments that now come before CAP are accompanied by full search plans.

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- ii. Appellate Committee – Bryce Falk

Bryce Falk, current Appellate Chair, presented the report. Walter Stone chaired the Committee last year. The committee met 8 times and considered a total of 37 appeals.

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- f. Annual Report of the Undergraduate Council: General Education – Chris Thaiss

Chris Thaiss presented the report. The GE Committee and the GE Implementation Task Force worked together. Over 3000 courses were proposed last year which went through a two phase process: one direct approval of 55% of the courses and the remainder sent back to departments for revision. Those were reviewed again and approved. The Senate Committee on Courses of Instruction is now looking at them. The new GE program is going into effect Fall 2011.

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i. Annual Report of the Committee on Preparatory Education	149
ii. Annual Report of the Committee on Special Academic Programs (not available)	
iii. Annual Report of the Committee on Undergraduate Instruction and Program Review	151
cc. *Annual Report of the Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships, Honors and Prizes	

Motion: To approve all the Annual Reports. Seconded and approved by affirmation.

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7. Reports of standing committees	
8. Petitions of Students	
9. Unfinished Business	
10. University and Faculty Welfare	
11. New Business	
12. Informational Item	
a. Special Committee on Student Evaluation of Teaching Report	156
13. Consent Item	
a. External Advisory Committee Guidelines (reporting of action taken by the Divisional Chair in response to Representative Assembly resolution of February 24, 2009).	164

Item 13 was removed from the consent calendar for discussion. No further action.

Ines Hernandez-Avila, Secretary
Representative Assembly of the
Davis Division of the Academic Senate

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