

Report of the Representative to the Assembly of the Academic Senate Spring Quarter 2003

The Assembly met on May 28, 2003, on the UCLA campus and then again—to discuss postponed business—in Berkeley on July 30, 2003. The Santa Cruz Division was represented at both meetings by Chair Blumenthal, Vice Chair Galloway, Mark Traugott (Chair, University Committee on Faculty Welfare), and John Lynch (UCSC Representative). Senators interested in further details about aspects of the two meetings are urged to confer with any of the above. The complete agenda and much material relevant to what went on during the Spring and Summer meetings are posted on the Assembly's webpages: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/assembly/>

For Senators interested in following the work of the Systemwide Academic Senate on issues, check the summaries in the bi-monthly newsletter, "The Senate Source":

<http://www.ucop.edu/senate/source/welcome.html>

If anyone would like to have input on any of the issues now actively being addressed at the systemwide Senate level, the relevant links and email addresses of ad hoc committee chairs are there to click. The Assembly of the Academic Senate aims for openness, transparency, and widespread faculty involvement in its deliberations.

In addition to several information items, there were six action items on the May agenda, one of which (# 4) was continued to the July meeting and became the sole item on that agenda:

1. Two at-large members were nominated and unanimously elected to the University Committee on Committees (UCOC) for 2003-04, as were UCOC Chairs and Vice Chairs (roster of systemwide appointments on pp. 88-9 of the May agenda).
2. On behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaw Revisions, Chair George Blumenthal proposed several amendments to Senate Bylaws (mostly of an editorial nature, to update and to achieve internal consistency), all of which were discussed and passed by the Assembly: see pp. 17-48 of the meeting agenda.
3. The more controversial proposal—to amend APM 015, the Faculty Code of Conduct, to include a more explicit statement on Faculty-Student relations--was discussed at considerable length and passed by a strong plurality of Assembly members present. This proposed amendment to Academic Senate Bylaws was widely reported in the press and is thoroughly presented in the meeting minutes on pp. 49-53.
4. After much discussion, the proposed revision of the Academic Personnel Manual's statement on Academic Freedom (APM 010) was tabled until the relevant committees on each campus had an opportunity to discuss it further. At the July meeting of the Assembly, this somewhat controversial issue, with members of the press present and reporting, was the sole focus of deliberations. Several amendments to the proposal were discussed and defeated, and the original proposal carried by an overwhelming majority: see the July agenda for details.

5. The Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) proposed new language for Senate Regulation 418, Article 1, concerning the Submission of Test Scores, to be valid for the freshman class entering in Fall 2006. This new language was necessary to reflect the changes in the nature of ACT and SAT requirements and tests scheduled to take effect for UC freshmen in 2006. After some discussion the amendments to current language were passed by a near majority.

6. BOARS also proposed and got approved a transition plan for admissions testing until the new UC requirements take effect. For details on action items 5 and 6, including a link to a very full discussion of the issues, see the May agenda pp. 90-5.

The morning session at the May meeting included scripted remarks by President Richard Atkinson on 23 administrative issues, #1 (as usual) being the University budget situation. Since President Atkinson was called away for emergency meetings on the budget, he was unable to attend the May meeting, and Senior Vice President C. Judson King presented the remarks and fielded questions in his stead. The President's scripted remarks, with illuminating distillations of what is at issue on 23 topics, provide an excellent way of following what is happening at UCOP and are available for downloading in PDF format from the Assembly webpages.

Respectfully Submitted;

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSEMBLY

John Lynch

October 8, 2003