MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Santa Cruz Division
May 21, 2010

Meeting
A regular meeting of the Santa Cruz Division of the Academic Senate was held Friday, May 21, 2010 at the Stevenson Event Center. With Parliamentarian Michael Dine present, Chair Lori Kletzer called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

1. Approval of Draft Minutes
Chair Kletzer asked if there were any proposed changes to the minutes of February 10, 2010, other than those submitted in writing. Professor Joel Yellin (Physical and Biological Sciences) presented an updated version of the corrections he previously had submitted. The minutes were approved.

2. Announcements
a. Chair Lori Kletzer
Chair Kletzer discussed budget challenges and uncertainty. She commented that it is deeply troubling and disturbing when a governor produces a budget that pits higher education against California’s most vulnerable populations and noted that it has been a year of challenges, starting with furloughs and a walkout. Turning to the agenda, Chair Kletzer explained that the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) started working on an amendment to the Narrative Evaluation System (NES) in the fall and by spring quarter the proposed amendments were approved.

Chair Kletzer recognized the following 2009-10 Excellence in Teaching Award Recipients:
Cyrus Bazeghi, Computer Engineering
Jennifer A. Gonzalez, History of Art and Visual Culture
Gey-Hong Gweon, Physics
Catherine Ramirez, American Studies
Susan Watrous, College Eight

Honorable Mentions:
Rodney Ogawa, Education
Frank "Paco" Ramirez, Language Program
Gustavo Vazquez, Film and Digital Media
Patricia Zavella, Latin American and Latino Studies

Chair Kletzer also recognized Chancellor Blumenthal, who was the recipient of the System-wide Senate’s Oliver Johnson Award for Senate Service.

Chair Kletzer thanked EVC Kliger for his years of service and said EVC Kliger’s dedication and loyalty are inspiring. She also thanked Senate Director Mary-Beth Harhen, Senate staff member Susanna Wrangell, and Senate committee chairs for all their hard work.
Professor Ólőf Einarsdóttir (Chemistry), rising on a point of privilege, moved the following resolution:

Whereas, this is Dave Kliger's final meeting of the Academic Senate as the Executive Vice Chancellor, and

Whereas, Dave Kliger will retire this fall after 39 years of distinguished service to UC as a Professor of Chemistry, Department Chair, Chair of the Committee on Academic Personnel, Chair of the Academic Senate, Dean, and Vice Chancellor, and

Whereas, Dave Kliger's long commitment to teaching, research, and service has been recognized with the Outstanding Faculty Award of the Division of Physical and Biological Sciences and with his invitation to deliver the 34th annual Faculty Research Lecture,

We are therefore Resolved that this body should recognize Dave Kliger for his outstanding contributions to this Senate, this campus, and this University, and we wish him well in his retirement.

The resolution passed by acclamation.

b. Chancellor George Blumenthal
The chancellor began by recognizing Professor Gary Glatzmaier (Earth and Planetary Sciences), who was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

Next Chancellor Blumenthal provided an update on the state budget. The May revise includes the restoration of $305 million to the UC budget, $51.3 million to support student access, and $355 million for capital facility construction. The chancellor recognized that elected officials face terribly difficult choices this year and said that UC continues to convey to Sacramento that higher education is a uniquely powerful investment. The restoration of funding will help maintain access and course availability, protect financial aid for thousands of young Californians, and minimize further program cuts and layoffs.

Chancellor Blumenthal thanked Chair Kletzer for her work and commented that Chair Kletzer chaired more Senate meetings in one year than often take place in two years. Chair Kletzer accomplished much, including co-chairing the faculty salary workgroup, and is highly regarded both on campus and at the system wide level.

Chancellor Blumenthal closed by acknowledging Dave Kliger's years of service as EVC. EVC Kliger, he said, bore the job’s responsibility with grace and has made lasting contributions that leave UCSC well-positioned for the future. EVC Kliger oversaw the development of the comprehensive academic plan and robust capital improvements, and fostered a climate that encouraged pursuit of external research
funding. EVC Kliger’s students, postdocs, and former students describe him as patient, supportive, gentle, calm, good-humored, and encouraging. The EVC has guided the campus through some very difficult budget decisions. Chancellor Blumenthal said he is grateful to EVC Kliger for his leadership, his counsel, and his many contributions.

c. Campus Provost/Executive Vice Chancellor Kliger

EVC Kliger thanked the chancellor for his remarks. EVC Kliger said that in each of his leadership roles, his primary goal has always been to support the university’s mission of research, teaching, and service. This is why he pushed the campus to adopt a comprehensive academic plan – because he believes academic planning must drive all other planning at a major research university. Faculty scholarship shapes our research enterprise, which informs, for example, our capital needs. Before the campus had an academic plan, each division could dream but lacked the overall framework that would guide decision making and resource allocation.

EVC Kliger noted that as EVC he kept the interests of the entire campus at the forefront, supporting the Digital Arts Research Center building, the McHenry expansion, and now Biomedical Sciences. UCSC facilities have matured in step with the campus emergence as a research powerhouse, but it is the people who make UCSC. The campus today has an outstanding faculty and leadership team to match. The EVC said he is proud that the campus has assembled the best administrative leadership team in the history of the campus.

EVC Kliger acknowledged the great staff that has worked with him for 25 years, especially thanking Charlotte Moreno, who began working with the EVC on administering his grants in 1988, and has worked with the EVC in both the dean’s and EVC’s office. The EVC said she has been, in many ways, responsible for the successes he has enjoyed.

The EVC also said he has had the pleasure and honor of working with many talented students, postdocs, and researchers and thanked them for their hard work, their professionalism, and their friendship.

EVC Kliger stated that if there is one thing he hopes people will take away it is that UCSC’s accomplishments far outweigh the disappointments and hardships the campus has experienced.

Following the remarks Chair Kletzer opened the floor to questions.

Professor Barry Bowman (MCD Biology) projected a chart which compared UCSC’s off-scale faculty salaries to other UC campuses’. Professor Bowman asked where the EVC thought UCSC should be on this distribution and what the realistic time scale is for when the campus might get there.
EVC Kliger responded that the campus started to address the issue of low faculty salaries three years ago, and he believes the numbers will look even better next year. The administration agreed to track salaries for three years and then reevaluate. The campus is not going to catch up with UCB or UCLA, but could get to the middle of the pack.

Chancellor Blumenthal added that UC is going to have to face a hard question of whether or not it is married to the step system.

Professor Joel Yellin (PBSci) agreed with all that was said about EVC Kliger’s service. He also appreciated Chancellor Blumenthal’s responses during the Q&A at the last Senate meeting.

Referring to a comment made by Professor Yellin, the EVC concurred that faculty members may disagree on issues but must do so in a manner that does not become personal.

Professor Mark Carr (EEB), rising on a point of privilege, moved the following resolution:

Be it resolved:

That the Santa Cruz Division of the Academic Senate would like to express its deep gratitude to Professor Lori Kletzer for her exemplary leadership of the Division this year. Chair Kletzer has guided the Senate through many challenges to shared governance on issues of furlough, budget cutting, and the resultant programmatic changes. She has proven herself to be a driving force for enabling the Senate to tackle numerous challenging issues. Chair Kletzer skillfully kept order at an unprecedented number of senate meetings this year with unwavering tact, equanimity and a really big mallet.

For this service, the Senate thanks Professor Lori Kletzer.

The resolution passed by acclamation.

3. Report of the Representative to the Assembly (none)

4. Special Order Annual Reports
a. Committee on the Faculty Research Lecture (AS/SCP/1640)
Committee on Faculty Research Lecture (CFRL) Chair Barbara Rogoff announced the nomination of Professor Paul Whitworth to give the 2010-2011 Faculty Research Lecture. CRFL Chair Rogoff discussed a number of Professor Whitworth’s accomplishments including his important works of theatrical literature and award-
winning directing work which has earned him national and international recognition.

The nomination was accepted by acclamation.

5. Reports of Special Committees (none)

6. Reports of Standing Committees
a. Committee on Committees
   i. 2010-11 Nominations (AS/SCP/1641)
Committee on Committees (COC) Chair Loisa Nygaard thanked the faculty for past, present and future service. COC Chair Nygaard said UCSC has the highest percentage of Senate service in the UC system.

COC Chair Nygaard then presented the following changes and additions to the 2010-11 nominations: to add Marilyn Walker as Assembly Representative, Jonathan Fox to the Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid, Nathaniel Deutsch (F) and Eric Porter to the Committee on Educational Policy, and Matthew O’Hara to the Committee on Research and to remove Jennifer Poole (F) from the Committee on International Education.

All the nominations were approved by acclamation.

b. Committee on Educational Policy
   i. Update on General Education Reform
Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) Chair John Tamkun provided a progress report on general education reform. Chair Tamkun discussed the total number of course proposals, the Disciplinary Communication (DC) proposals, the proposal review process, and the decisions as of May 20, 2010.

CEP Chair Tamkun said new GE courses will be offered this fall and can be found in the online schedule of classes. All departments will be notified of CEP’s decisions regarding course proposals by the end of May.

Onuttom Narayan (Physics) asked if 800 seats are enough for the GE requirements. CEP Chair Tamkun responded that since the new GE’s apply only to entering frosh, not continuing students, courses can be phased in over four years.

VPDUE Bill Ladusaw stated that the number of seats indicated in AIS reflects only the seats available for enrollment by current students. Since there are some seats reserved for entering students that do not appear in this tally, these numbers appear artificially low.

c. Committee on Faculty Welfare
i. Pension and Post-Retirements Health Benefits

Committee on Faculty Welfare (CFW) Chair Elizabeth Abrams and CFW members Suresh Lodha and Abel Rodriguez provided a recap of the report and information on how proposed changes would affect faculty members. Chair Abrams said the Post Employment Benefits (PEB) Task Force has been meeting for a year. There has been limited consultation with faculty, and there are concerns about the timeline for Regental approval to changes to the PEB system.

Onuttom Narayan (Physics) moved a resolution asking that campuses have more time to respond to the options.

Chair Kletzer noted that the meeting no longer had a quorum and the resolution could not be considered.

Professor Narayan then asked Chancellor Blumenthal what will be done to retain fairness in benefits as UC considers changes to the UCRS. The chancellor said the new pension benefits that are being discussed are not straightforward or clear cut. If there is a combined contribution of 17 percent by employer and employee to the pension plan, the system would become stable, but it is underfunded beyond that, so the overall problem would not be fixed. Because of confidentiality issues the chancellor is limited in what he can say about the proposed plans; however; the age factor will not depend on salary but the contribution level may be a function of salary.

Professor Yellin stated that the Task Force on Investment and Retirement (TFIR) produced a number of excellent reports, but he cannot find the list of pros and cons for the proposals which is referred to in documents from the Office of the President (OP). Professor Yellin also stated that he cannot find information on the indebtedness of the university, concerning bonds, at this point. Discussing a slide that he asked to have projected, Professor Yellin asked about the possibilities of increasing returns from investment helping with this problem. Should UC manage these funds in-house or get help from successful people in the investment business?

Chair Kletzer responded that Professor Yellin’s question about the pros and cons is a good one, but only the pros are available at this point. The balanced argument is being considered by UC Chief Financial Officer Peter Taylor. The Academic Council has recently received more analysis, which Chair Kletzer will distribute. Chair Kletzer said there is an issue about debt capacity and how pension obligation bonds fit into the university economy, but the TFIR bond proposals are separate from the PEB Task Force’s proposals which focus on the future configuration of the retirement system.

d. Committee on International Education
i. Department Survey on Student Participation in Education Abroad Program (AS/SCP/1643)
Committee on International Education (CIE) Chair Debra Lewis said 2/3 of departments with undergraduate programs responded to the survey. Students from almost all departments participate in the Education Abroad Program.

e. Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction and Elections
   i. Amendments to Bylaw 8.4.1 & 9.1 (AS/SCP/1637)
Since there was not quorum, this item was deferred to the next regular meeting.

7. Report of Student Union Assembly Chair
Matthew Palm, Commissioner of Academic Affairs (CAA), stated that SUA hopes the governor will follow through on his commitment to support Cal Grants. CAA Palm reported that the SUA is lobbying for the Federal Dream Act, and that the SUA conducted a survey on class accessibility. The results indicate students continue to struggle to get into their required courses. CAA Palm thanked the Senate and administration for leadership and support.

8. Report of the Graduate Student Association President (none)

9. Petitions of Students (none)

10. Unfinished Business (none)

11. New Business
Since there was not quorum, this item was deferred to the next regular meeting.

Professor Carolyn Martin-Shaw (Anthropology), rising on a point of privilege, commented on the language used in Senate meetings and how faculty conducted themselves. Professor Martin-Shaw asked to hold open the opportunities of learning from all experiences and said it is worrisome if we cannot keep all conversations open and lively.

Adjournment: 5:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carol Freeman
Secretary