



### Notes From the Academic Senate Chair

George Blumenthal

[george.blumenthal@ucop.edu](mailto:george.blumenthal@ucop.edu)

Dear Colleagues – Recent actions at the March 9 meeting of the [Assembly](#) mark important progress made this year in the Senate's business and its focused initiatives. First of all, I am very pleased to announce the Assembly's election of [John Oakley](#), Professor of Law at UC Davis, as the 2005-06 Vice Chair of the Assembly. Professor Oakley, who is currently the Chair of the Universitywide Committee on Faculty Welfare (UCFW), will succeed to the Chair of the Assembly and of the Academic Council in AY 2006-07, and will be more fully introduced in our Senate publications at the beginning of next year. Next, a significant policy was put in place with the Assembly's approval of a set of [Guidelines](#) that will provide future Senate leaders with direction on the Senate's role in the academic and physical planning of a new UC campus, as well as regularizing the process for granting divisional status to a new campus. These guidelines and procedures are based on historical precedents set in the development of the San Diego, Irvine and Santa Cruz campuses, and draw heavily on the Senate's more recent involvement in the planning for and establishment of UC Merced. Also approved by the Assembly this month were amendments to [Senate Bylaw 336](#), which clarify the statute of limitations on initiating disciplinary cases. These bylaw changes are intended to avoid situations in which faculty would not have an adequate defense against charges for events that took place in the distant past. The change is effective immediately, and I have asked Divisional Chairs and the Office of the President to notify faculty and administrators of this change.

In the January *Senate Source*, I outlined the Academic Council's proposal to introduce state legislation that we believe will help focus the attention of policy-makers on the critical importance of graduate education to California. Since then, the California State University (CSU) Senate has joined with UC in this effort, resulting in a joint draft [Resolution on Graduate Education](#). At the March 9 meeting, the Assembly approved a supporting resolution that calls upon the Chair of the Senate and the President of the University to take whatever actions necessary to have this proposed legislation introduced in and passed by both houses during the 2005-06 legislative session. Recently, the CSU Senate leadership and I presented the joint resolution to key legislators in Sacramento, and I am optimistic of receiving a commitment of sponsorship soon.

With a large number of bills being introduced in the Legislature this year, the Senate office is gearing up for a busy legislative season that will

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## TAKING THE LONG VIEW: A TALK WITH VICE PRESIDENT- BUDGET, LAWRENCE HERSHMAN

Lawrence Hershman, Vice President-Budget, began his UC career in 1968 on the San Francisco campus and came to the UCOP Budget Office in 1974. He has worked under six UC presidents and has been on the frontline of budget negotiations with six different state administrations (listed at the end of this article). We recently talked with him about his history at the University and his views on budget directions for the future.

**Your 37-year career spans the terms of six UC presidents and six California governors. To what do you attribute your longevity in this job?**

So, the question is – how have I survived? There are probably several answers. First, I've enjoyed the job. I think you have to like what you're doing or you can't do a very good job. When David Saxon first became president, thirty-some years ago, he told me you have to be an optimist to do this job. Well, I truly am an optimist, and I agree that being optimistic is an important element of the job. But more than any other single reason why I've continued with it is the people I have worked with – chancellors, EVCs, budget folks, the Senate, the students, the legislators and legislative staff, the DOF. The people have been great. And since the late 70s we have had a good internal consultative process for bringing people in and trying to make sure that the whole university community buys into the budget and helps sell it when we make our case in Sacramento. I think that's made all the difference. We've by and large been together. If it had been all about internal fighting and then having to go carry the message externally, it would have been a lot harder.



Vice President Hershman

**Can you say more about the transition you referred to in the 70s?**

In the old days, they had a budget process in which campuses submitted budget proposals and there was a constant fight going on between the president's office and the campuses about what were real priorities. We scrapped that and went to a process where we worked together to build priorities. We build them one year after another, so we don't have to start all over again with every discussion. Another part of the change was going to longer-term budget proposals, multi-year proposals. And it also made a big difference to have people focus on real priorities – not just wish lists. There can still be enormous conflicts, but we get past those conflicts and work together. All this has made it fun. I enjoy processes in which consensus is built. We did that with the current Compact – we worked really hard to build consensus.

**The current Higher Education Compact with Governor Schwarzenegger, which you just mentioned, is the latest in a series of such agreements that UC has entered into with California governors. The meaningfulness of these agreements has sometimes been questioned, since, in difficult budgetary times the state may not meet its obligations, while the University does keep its side of the bargain. How do you respond to this criticism and what would you say have been the advantages and disadvantages of having these agreements in general?**

My view on these kinds of agreements is that they're handshakes. People tend to be committed to handshakes. I've been involved in making several of these multi-year agreements, the first with George Deukmejian at what was a crisis point for the University when faculty salaries were 17 percent behind the market. The next one was with Pete Wilson after we had gone through a couple of years of steep budget cuts and salaries were once again way behind the market...and things looked desperate. At that time there were projections that there wasn't going to be ANY money for UC by the year 2000. When Gray Davis ... [Click here](#) for full article.

## Notes, continued from page 1

continue into the summer. We will be soliciting comments from Senate members, submitting responses on proposed legislation that has an impact on UC faculty, students and curricula, and reporting on significant issues. One such item - the proposed amendment to the Education Code that would allow CSU the authority to independently grant doctoral degrees - is updated in this newsletter. We are also closely monitoring recent bills relating to public pension reform that would eliminate defined benefit programs for public employees, including UC employees, hired after July 2007. The Senate is opposed to this legislation and has submitted comments pointing out the financial health of the UCRS and its defined-benefit component, and the advantages of a defined benefit plan for recruitment and retention of quality faculty. In his recent testimony before the state Legislature, Gerald Parsky, Chairman of the UC Board of Regents emphasized the role our current plan plays in making UC competitive in the national labor market and the need for UC to have flexible compensation packages.

So far this year, the Academic Council has held lunchtime discussions with several UC Regents as a part of our monthly meetings. In February we had the pleasure of talking with both Student Regent Jodi Anderson and Student Regent-Designate Adam Rosenthal, whose interests reflected a full range of policy issues affecting students as well as the faculty, the staff and the university at large. I find these informal exchanges to be an effective and engaging way to hear the thoughts of individual Regents and to give them insight into the workings and views of the Senate. Visits with other members of the board are scheduled for the coming months. Also coming up is the biannual joint meeting between the Academic Council and the Council of Executive Vice Chancellors, which will be held on March 31. This agenda concentrates on two items: graduate education and diversity within the UC, and I will report on any significant outcome in the next newsletter.

As always, I am happy to hear your comments.

-George Blumenthal

**Academic Senate**  
**University of California**  
**1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor**  
**Oakland, CA 94607-5200**

### THE SENATE SOURCE

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**George Blumenthal** 2004-05 Chair  
Systemwide Academic Senate

**Brenda Foust**, Lead Editor  
**Betty Marton**, Co-editor

Send comments and questions to:  
[senatenews@ucop.edu](mailto:senatenews@ucop.edu)

## LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

Whether due to state licensure requirements or to the requirements of professional associations, there have been an increasing number of applied professions that require or plan to require the doctorate as their entry-level degree. Because UC has been given the sole authority to award doctoral degrees through California's Master Plan of Higher Education, the majority of applied doctoral degrees are currently offered through joint programs between UC and the CSU. But there has been mounting pressure on the Legislature to allow CSU to award "stand-alone" doctoral degrees independent of UC or California's private universities. The result is a bill introduced in the Legislature this session that would do just that. [SB 724](#) would amend the Education Code to authorize the CSU to independently award professional/clinical doctoral degrees, which the bill defines as degrees awarded as part of a post-master's degree program that prepares students for entry to professional practice other than university faculty research and teaching. The Academic Senate opposes this legislation because: 1) financing independent CSU doctorates would be expensive for the state and require a duplication of resources; 2) through partnering, UC plays a key role in providing the oversight necessary to ensure that California's public doctoral programs are of the highest quality and, to date, the CSU has no comparable oversight mechanism in place; and 3) the bill language is ambiguous in meaning and poorly worded. The Systemwide Senate is tracking this bill, and we will update its progress in future issues of the *Senate Source*.

### The Sakai Project: Community Source Software for Academic Institutions

- Kimberly Peterson

As higher education has become increasingly dependent on information technology, more and more colleges and universities are seeking the significant economies of scale possible through collaborative initiatives. The University Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy (ITTP) has been monitoring one such collaborative effort, the Sakai Project, and its potential benefit to the University of California and its faculty. Five UC campuses are currently involved ...

[Link to full article](#)

### CRITICAL DECLINE

#### IN GRADUATE STUDENT ENROLLMENTS

- Todd Giedt

Until just a few years ago, international graduate students were enrolling at University of California campuses in ever-increasing numbers. In a recent and unwelcome reversal of that trend, UC has experienced a precipitous drop in its international graduate student population. The loss of this pool of talent not only hinders ...

[Link to full article](#)

**John Oakley, Professor of Law at UC Davis, has been elected  
2005-06 Vice Chair of the Assembly and of the Academic Council .**  
Professor Oakley will assume this post in September, 2005 and will succeed to the Chair of the Systemwide Senate in 2006-07.

### UPDATES AND EVENTS

- ▶ The next meeting of the [Assembly](#) will be on May 11, 2005 on the UC Berkeley campus.
- ▶ The Academic Council has endorsed a revised [Resolution on Restrictions on Research Funding Sources](#).
- ▶ The Academic Council has recommended a public access [policy](#) for results of research funded by the [California Institute for Regenerative Medicine](#).
- ▶ On April 12, [inauguration ceremonies](#) will be held in Mexico City for UC's [Casa de California](#), a center for bi-lateral UC-Mexico programs, research and instruction.
- ▶ Academic Council has submitted formal comments on SLASAC's Report "[Strategic Directions for Libraries and Scholarly Information.](#)"

### Under Senate Review

Comments on items out for general review can be sent to your [Divisional Chair](#) or relevant [Divisional Committee](#). Response date for comments follows listing. Click [here](#) for a comprehensive list of items currently under review.

- ▶ [Proposed Amendment to Senate Regulation 478-SciGETC](#) (4/14/05)
- ▶ [Electronic Communications Policy Update](#) (4/15/05)
- ▶ [Proposed Amendment to Senate Regulation 600.B](#) (4/14/05)
- ▶ [Proposed Revisions to APM 760, 133-17, 210-1, and 220](#) (5/10/05)
- ▶ [Proposed Revisions \(informal review\) to APM 710, 080 and 700](#) (6/10/05)
- ▶ [Addendum to the Task Force Report on Graduate and Professional Schools Admissions](#) (6/3/05)

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