



Notes From the Academic Senate Chair

Clifford Brunk

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Dear Colleagues – Greetings. As the 05-06 Chair of the UC Academic Senate, I welcome the opportunity to share thoughts with the Senate faculty at large and other friends of the Senate in these regular ‘Chair’s Notes.’ The Senate’s business year is fully underway, having been launched in September with the first Academic Council meeting on September 28, and with two all-day retreats that same week—one for the standing committees of the Assembly, the other for the Divisional Chairs and Senate Directors. We are busily engaged with a number of policy issues and initiatives, such as those mentioned in the companion interview on this page of the newsletter.

Among this year’s issues, the UC Science and Mathematics Initiative (SMI) stands out because of its pedagogical, practical and political importance. The SMI (also known as the [California Teach Program](#)) is a joint project between UC and the Governor to address a critical shortfall in the number and quality of California K-12 science and math teachers. Its goal is to increase UC’s output of credentialed science and math teachers to at least 1000 per year by 2010, effectively quadrupling the current number. Once the program is in place, a qualified student will be able to earn a science, mathematics or engineering bachelor’s degree, plus prepare for a single-subject credential, in four years. Field experience, financial incentives for students who commit to remain a science or math teacher for a specified period of time, industry-funded internships, and ongoing mentoring from master teachers are all part of the SMI. Clearly, this initiative is ambitious and worthy of our best efforts. The Senate will provide a “bottom up” approach to complement the “top down” initiative provided by the Governor and President Dynes. The Academic Council has been discussing how most effectively to join with the administration in the development and implementation of the SMI, and is now in the process of forming a Senate work group to coordinate with the administration in promoting the SMI, and discharge our responsibilities to oversee curriculum and course development and teacher credentialing. SMI has tremendous potential for making a difference in preparatory education in these fields, and I encourage you to visit the [SMI web site](#) for more information.

The issue of faculty and executive compensation is a recurring interest of the Senate’s and is the particular focus of Senate committees, particularly University Committees on Planning and Budget (UCPB) and Faculty Welfare (UCFW). Discussion of this issue has recently gained momentum from the

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Senate Leadership Demonstrate a Broad Commitment to UC

On September 1st UCLA Professor of cell and molecular biology [Clifford Brunk](#) and UC Davis Law School Professor [John Oakley](#), two experienced UC faculty leaders with distinguished records of teaching, research and Senate service, began their tenures as the 2005-2006 systemwide Academic Senate Chair and Vice Chair.

Professor Brunk has amassed nearly 40 years of Senate service in a variety of roles, including UCLA divisional chair, UCLA Graduate Council chair, and chair of the Systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs. Professor Brunk received his master’s degree in electrical engineering and Ph.D. in biophysics from Stanford, and began his career as part of a team working on the Stanford Linear Accelerator. He first joined UCLA’s zoology department in 1967 and now investigates molecular biological approaches to the study of evolution as a professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Professor Brunk also served for seven years on the Senate’s UC Merced Task Force, where he played an integral role in campus development and faculty hiring. Not surprisingly, one of his major goals this year is to continue

Click [here](#) for the entire article.



Chair Clifford Brunk and Vice Chair John Oakley

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE-TIME OPPORTUNITY FOR FACULTY: *Supplemental Disability Benefits Available During November Open Enrollment*

UC’s annual Open Enrollment for health and welfare plans is from November 1 through November 30. For the first time in 15 years, faculty will have the opportunity to enroll in UC’s Supplemental Disability Benefits Plan without a health statement. Please read a [letter](#) from Professor Raymond Russell, Chair of the Universitywide Committee on Faculty Welfare (UCFW), and the [Disability Benefits Information brochure](#) for more information. Detailed Open Enrollment information is available on the [At Your Service website](#), where you can complete open enrollment transactions on-line.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

The Senate convened the [Special Committee on Scholarly Communication](#) (SCSC) in 2004 to address dysfunctions in the area of scholarly communication that diminished access to and impact of scholarship, impeded innovations in the dissemination of scholarship, and led to decades of hyper-inflated prices. Click [here](#) to read an update on the committee’s activities and the white papers under development.

[Regents' consideration](#) of university-wide compensation and specific proposals to: 1) try to achieve market comparability for all UC employees over a ten year period beginning in 2006-07; and 2) to establish more rational procedures for setting and determining the salaries of UC's senior managers, shifting the oversight of salaries for that group from the Regents to the administration. A third proposal, which has been deferred for later consideration calls for the use of private funds as a portion of senior management compensation. The Academic Council has been briefed on these proposals and discussed them at length at our last two meetings. Raising UC employee salaries to market levels is a laudable goal, but accomplishing this goal will be challenging. The Academic Council has formulated two [resolutions](#), one responding to the policy questions raised by these proposals, and the other opposing on principle the use of private fund-raising efforts to augment senior management salaries. The resolutions will be forwarded to the Assembly for endorsement at its [November 9 meeting](#), and I will provide an update on this matter in coming Notes.

Finally, I would like to call your attention to a report that came out in August capping a three-year effort on the part of the Senate and the administration to improve how faculty instructional activities are measured and reported. The final report, entitled "[A System for Reporting Faculty Instructional Effort](#)," is founded on a pair of previous reports (see appendices [three](#) and [four](#)) produced by a 2002 joint Task Force established by former UC Provost Judd King in response to a 2001 state audit of UC's teaching performance. Building on the earlier Task Force recommendations, this recent report proposes a new systemwide methodology for categorizing faculty "total instructional effort". The Academic Council has endorsed implementation of the proposed system and recommends ongoing monitoring and a review of its impact in two years. I applaud the groups and individuals who have been involved in this fundamentally important project, and believe these changes will significantly benefit the University and its faculty by more accurately reflecting the nature of instruction at a research institution and conveying a clearer understanding of faculty instructional efforts to legislators and the public.

Have a rewarding and productive fall term. I look forward to sharing more information with you in future issues.

- Cliff Brunk

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Your comments are welcome. Send to:
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UPDATES and EVENTS

- ▶ The [Assembly of the Academic Senate](#) will meet by teleconference on November 9. Click [here](#) for the agenda.
- ▶ Academic Council has endorsed **BOARS'** recommended [Guidelines for Implementation of University Policy on Admission by Exception](#).
- ▶ Academic Council has issued a report on the status of graduate education within UC, "[The Decline of UC as a Great International University](#)".
- ▶ **Senior Leadership Compensation:** Academic Council recommended two resolutions to the Assembly in regard to Regents item RE-61 entitled "[Resolution in Opposition to the Use of Private Funds for Senior Leadership Salaries](#)" and "[Resolution on Proper Compensation Priorities for UC](#)".
- ▶ Academic Council recently adopted the [Resolution on Maintaining the Public Status of the University of California](#).
- ▶ **Faculty Webchat on Long-Range Planning:** As part of the long-range planning process that President Dynes recently launched, faculty had the opportunity to provide input to Provost M.R.C. Greenwood, Senior Vice President for University Affairs Bruce Darling, Academic Council Chair Clifford Brunk, and Academic Council Vice Chair John Oakley in a November 2nd webchat. An on-line [transcript](#) is available; Click [here](#) to view more details on the long-range planning process.
- ▶ Academic Council endorsed the [Report of the Task Force for the Implementation of Workload Reporting Policy](#).
- ▶ **Sexual Harassment Training:** Please check your email for information regarding the on-line training for the [UC Policy on Sexual Harassment](#), which covers all members of the UC community. This training session is required for all faculty and supervisors.
- ▶ **Education Abroad Program Faculty Recruitment:** UCEAP is currently accepting faculty applications for 13 directorship openings. See the [UCEAP website](#) for details.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

In the first year of the 2005-06 California Legislative Session the systemwide Academic Senate identified and monitored 47 bills of potential impact to faculty, students and the University's teaching, research and service missions, and provided input for the development of UC's legislative policy positions on 15 of these bills. The Senate regularly tracks these bills on its new [Legislative Affairs web page](#). A summary of the 47 monitored bills is as follows:

- ▶ The governor signed 5 and vetoed 2 of the Senate's tracked bills; 7 failed passage out of committee; 27 Remain in committee or on the house floor and will be acted on next year; 1 was amended significantly and is no longer of interest to UC or the Senate ([AB 401](#)).
- ▶ Governor Schwarzenegger signed the **CSU Education Doctorate Bill (SB 724)**, which authorizes CSU to award Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degrees. This gives CSU campuses their first opportunity to independently grant doctorates; previously, the state's Master Plan for Higher Education only allowed CSU to award joint doctorates in collaboration with UC or private universities.
- ▶ The [governor vetoed](#) the **UC Medical School Admissions Criteria Bill (SB 780)** that would have requested the Regents to require UC medical schools to consider an applicant's community and family background with regard to the likelihood of the applicant ultimately practicing in a medically underserved area or population. The Senate leadership supported the University's [opposition to this legislation](#).

Under Senate Review

Unless otherwise noted, send comments to your [Divisional Chair](#) or relevant [Divisional Committee](#). Response date for divisions follows listing. Click [here](#) for a comprehensive list of items currently under review.

- ▶ [UCAAD Proposal For A System-wide Statement on Diversity](#) (1/10/06)