



Notes From the Academic Senate Chair Lawrence Pitts lawrence.pitts@ucop.edu

LIMITS, LABS, LIBRARIES AND LEGISLATION

Dear Colleagues — Welcome back to another challenging year. We greet Robert Dynes, former chancellor at UCSD, as the eighteenth president of the University of California. President Dynes has had a distinguished academic career as a physicist and UC faculty member, and arrives just in time to confront a number of serious issues facing UC. We wish him all possible success in his new stewardship of the University.

Although budget woes seem to occur about every decade, the one facing us now is probably the worst in UC's history. In past budget crises the University has, with difficulty, been able to live up to its commitment of offering admission to the top 1/8 of California's high school graduates. Since 1960, with the adoption of the Master Plan for Higher Education, the State has funded UC by way of a series of formal and informal "partnerships" that have committed state resources to funding the core needs of the University for instruction, research, and public service. As a result of budget cuts over the past few years, though, UC is currently funded \$1B less than the \$4B that the current Partnership Agreement with the Governor calls for. In addition, the 2003-04 budget specifies that the State does not plan to fund UC enrollment increases next year, which means that as many as 5,000 of the more than 45,000 newly admitted students may not enroll. This is the first time that the Legislature has said explicitly that UC may not receive the funding needed to fulfill its historic role

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NEUROSURGEON, ASTROPHYSICIST Fill Top Senate Posts for 2003-04

Consistent with past years, two accomplished scholars are at the helm of the Systemwide Senate for AY 2003-2004. On September 1, [Lawrence Pitts](#), professor of neurological surgery at UCSF and for 20 years chief of neurosurgery at SF General, took over as the Academic Senate Chair; and [George Blumenthal](#), UCSC professor of astronomy and astrophysics, became the vice chair.

In addition to their many professional accomplishments, both men bring an extraordinary level and quality of service to the Academic Senate. Pitts served as vice chair and chair of the UCSF Senate and chaired both the divisional and systemwide committees on Faculty Welfare. Blumenthal served on a wide variety of committees and chaired the Santa Cruz Senate and the University Committee on Privilege & Tenure. He was also instrumental in revising and modernizing the Senate's Systemwide Bylaws.

Issues related to the dire state of UC's budget and its potential effect on academic quality will claim a significant amount of the Senate's attention this year. Among the many challenges confronting UC are deciding whether and how to limit enrollment growth, and both attracting and retaining faculty when no funding is available for increases in salaries that already lag nearly nine percent behind the average at comparison institutions.

The Academic Senate has enjoyed a dynamic and productive relationship with the University's senior administration during the tenures of President Richard Atkinson and Provost C. Judson King. With the departure of these two key leaders, Professors Pitts and Blumenthal will have the important additional responsibility of forging ties with the new president and in-coming provost to ensure that UC's system of shared governance remains equally vital in the years ahead.



Academic Senate Chair, Lawrence Pitts (right), with Senate Vice Chair, George Blumenthal.

UPDATES AND EVENTS

Revised APM 010, Academic Freedom Issued On September 29 President Atkinson issued the [revised policy on Academic Freedom](#). The new policy received the support of the Regents, and the endorsement of the Academic Assembly by a vote of 45-3.

Revised [Sabbatical Leave](#) and [Leaves with Pay Policies](#) Major revisions are: 1) Significant University service can now substitute for the sabbatical in-residence teaching requirement; 2) Recipients of a sabbatical leave at less than full salary will be allowed to receive additional compensation for research from another university; 3) A faculty member holding a full-time administrative position for five years or more will be allowed to take an administrative leave immediately after that service. This leave will be in lieu of a sabbatical leave.

New Policy on Ownership of Course Materials The [new policy](#), which is effective immediately, is intended to clarify existing policy concepts and extend their application to works prepared for teaching, and, in particular, to provide useful guidance on intellectual property rights for teaching materials in digital form.

Regional Seminars on Scholarly Communication Faculty representatives from northern and southern campuses will participate by invitation in [regional seminars](#) scheduled for October 31 and November 7 respectively to explore the challenges and opportunities presented by networked information technologies. See "Future of UC's Scholarly Publications" on page 2.

Outreach Conference The Academic Council and the Office of the President will jointly sponsor a systemwide conference on the role of UC faculty in K-12, community college and graduate outreach initiatives on November 7 in Oakland. Campus Senates will nominate faculty delegates.

The University Committee on Education Abroad Program Renamed To better reflect both the growth and variety of UC's international academic programs, the committee was renamed the **University Committee on International Education (UCIE)**, by action of the Academic Assembly in May.

of offering admission to the top 12.5% of California high school graduates. This possible *enrollment limit* is the subject of intense discussions by the Regents, the Administration and the Academic Senate. Opinions range from “take the students even without funding—things will work out over time” to “maintaining excellence is the most important task of the University, and we can’t maintain this excellence by admitting students with no accompanying funding.” These positions and everything in between are being explored, so that when the budget is clearer and the outcome of the recall election is known, plans can be made accordingly for the 2004-05 enrollment. We will keep you informed on these discussions as they move forward.

UC’s role in managing (or sponsoring) the Department of Energy National Laboratory at Los Alamos (LANL) has been much in the news over the past year; the DOE Labs at Livermore (LLNL) and Berkeley (LBNL) have also recently received adverse publicity. These controversies prompted the DOE to announce last April that it planned to compete the LANL contract, and it now seems likely that LLNL’s contract will also go out for bid at the same time. (The LBNL contract currently is in a non-competitive review for renewal.) The bid RFP will probably become public next fall. UC has managed the DOE Labs for nearly 60 years, primarily as a service to the country. UC’s Lab contracts have largely been “no cost, no gain,” with actual management fees paid and some additional funds generated (about \$15M a year), which the Labs have reinvested in research often in conjunction with UC faculty. Other UC faculty have research projects either at the Labs or in collaboration with Lab scientists and engineers. The University is beginning to position itself to submit a bid when the time comes, although a final decision to do so will be made after the RFP conditions are known.

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FUTURE OF UC’S SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Digital publication and networked information are fundamentally changing the way the university’s researchers develop and disseminate their work. Because faculty are both the developers and consumers of research literature, theirs will be a key role in planning for the future of scholarly publication at UC. Defining that role and lending it impetus is an underlying purpose of a pair of upcoming [regional seminars](#) titled “The Emerging Influence of Technology on Scholarly Communication and Publishing: Planning for a Decade of Change,” sponsored by UCOP’s Office of Systemwide Library Planning and the California Digital Library (CDL) in consultation with the Academic Council. Selected participants from each campus will convene with University Librarians and officers of the CDL and Systemwide Library Planning to discuss how best to engage publication technologies to preserve standards for assessment, answer the varying publication/dissemination needs of faculty, and take advantage of these changes to create a more sustainable financial model for library collections and acquisitions.

The cost factor is particularly acute in light of the severe budget cuts UC’s libraries are now facing and the cost of publisher journal packages, which include print and/or electronic editions. UC libraries devote about a third—\$20.5 million – of their materials expenditures to these packages, much of which goes to the top four science, technology, and medical journal publishers. Price increases of from 5% to 8% a year are standard. If journal prices cannot be stabilized, there will be major reductions in UC’s shared digital collection for 2004 and beyond. The CDL is currently in intense licensing agreement negotiations with Elsevier and Wiley. In a [letter to UC faculty](#), which will be distributed in mid October, the University Librarians and the Systemwide Senate Chair will outline strategies that may prevent these reductions, and suggest ways that faculty can help. A [special website](#) has also been created specifically to keep faculty informed on this issue.

UCRP’S NORMAL RETIREMENT DATE HAS CHANGED

A provision to amend UCRP’s Normal Retirement Date to age 60 for those with five or more years of service credit was approved by the Regents this past summer. This change means that faculty members who are 60 years of age or older can now negotiate binding recall arrangements in advance of their retirement. The “normal” retirement date is the date at which vested benefits become payable. Although IRS rules governing qualified plans allow distribution of vested benefits after a stated retirement age even without a bona fide termination of employment, UC policy still requires a break in service of at least 30 days at the time of retirement. UCRP’s Normal Retirement Date does not affect the amount of benefits paid to individuals nor does it have any effect on the age at which members may choose to retire.

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Your comments are welcome. Send to: senateneews@ucop.edu

Under Senate Review

Unless otherwise noted, send comments to your [Divisional Chair](#) or relevant [Divisional Committee](#). Response date for general review follows listing.

- ▶ [Reports from the Universitywide Task Force on Faculty Instructional Activities](#) – Responses due by Nov. 13
- ▶ UCP&T’s Proposed [Revisions to SBL 335 B](#) to comply with Whistleblower Policies – Responses due by Dec. 5
- ▶ Senate Task Force [Report on Graduate/Professional School Admissions](#) – Responses due by Nov. 13
- ▶ The Budget and its Effect on Student Enrollment Policies – The Senate is in the process of formulating its recommendations on UC’s student enrollment policies

Visit the [Systemwide Senate’s Website](#) for a comprehensive list of items currently under review.