



Notes From the Academic Senate Chair

Lawrence Pitts lawrence.pitts@ucop.edu

Dear Colleagues – You are all wrapping up your academic year, but like the Academic Senate, I'm sure your lives remain a work in progress. Most of the prominent items that the Senate has considered this year are unresolved – budget, DOE National Labs, admissions policies, scholarly communications, multidisciplinary research, among others.

Budget. UC and the Governor have reached a “compact” whereby, due to California’s budget woes, UC takes very substantial cuts this year (3200 student enrollment drop, 25% research cuts over the past 3 years, huge fee increases for undergraduate, graduate, professional and out-of-state students – the list goes on). In exchange, the Governor has pledged to put in his budget a plan for UC to increase its base funding by 3% next year, rising to 5% annually beginning in 2008, in addition to allowing UC to keep any future fee increases. This is intended to be a “floor” for future funding, so if the state finances improve, additional funding might be possible. Of course, the compact is only a promise from the Governor. The Legislature actually has to fund these increases, but since severe budget cuts were felt throughout California, including UC, a promise of future support from the Governor is better than no plan at all. The University, with the [faculty's help](#), has initiated an [advocacy campaign](#), which needs to be sustained. The Senate will be helping the campus Academic Senates formulate ways that the faculty can be critically helpful in educating UC’s influential friends about the value that UC brings to the State’s life and economy. Be thinking about how you can become an effective advocate for UC. Remember, “All politics are local.”

DOE Labs. Nearly 3300 of you just completed a statewide Senate poll in support of UC continuing a relationship with Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore National Labs. The draft contract for Los Alamos will be published soon for public comment. UC and the Academic Senate have much work before us to determine whether or not the contract proposal is compatible with our mission, and if so, to prepare a bid in response. The actual bids are not likely to be submitted until after the fall elections and a contract awarded until well into 2005. The Livermore contract process dates have not yet been announced. The Lawrence Berkeley contract will be bid later

-Continued on page 2

BOARS POISED TO CHANGE U.C. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

If you have read a California newspaper in the last year, you know that UC eligibility and admissions have been topics of much discussion and some criticism.

One of President Dynes' first official acts was to appoint a Study Group on Eligibility and Admissions that included faculty, students, administrators, and Regents. The study group met six times between November 2003 and March 2004 and produced a [report](#), which contains a great deal of historic and current information and provides a thorough overview of policies and outcomes. The study group reaffirmed current policy on undergraduate admissions – including comprehensive review – and commended the work of the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS), the Academic Senate committee that oversees eligibility and admissions.



Professor Barbara Sawrey,
2002-2004 BOARS Chair.

On May 19, the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), the State planning and coordinating body for higher education under the provisions of the State Master Plan for Higher Education, released the results of its [eligibility study](#) (the first since 1996) indicating that California students are meeting UC eligibility criteria at greater than the 12.5% rate called for in the Master Plan. We should be pleased that the eligibility rate has grown from 11.1% in 1996 to the current 14.4%. More students than ever are taking the “a-g” curriculum in high school and the pattern of tests required to achieve statewide eligibility to UC and CSU. (The CSU eligibility rate was determined to be 28.8% in this study.) Recent UC efforts in academic preparation in K-12, and Eligibility in the Local Context have certainly contributed to more students meeting the eligibility requirements.

But now we must find a way to return eligibility to 12.5%. BOARS has been working hard this year to look at the many ways we might adjust the eligibility criteria to achieve the target percentage. We began our deliberations by articulating a set of [principles](#) to guide our review of criteria. BOARS’ recommendations for new eligibility criteria will be presented to the Academic Council on June 23, to the Academic Assembly on June 30, and to the Board of Regents at their July 14-15 meeting.

BOARS recognizes that our eligibility criteria do more than identify a pool of qualified California high school graduates from whom we can select our freshmen. Our criteria also serve as a beacon to all students and parents in the State indicating that UC is attainable for anyone who meets the criteria by taking a rigorous high school curriculum and performing well. We are also sending a signal to California schools about the curriculum they should be offering and encouraging their students to take in order to prepare for college. All students, regardless of high school, local environment, family income, or any other personal factor, should have the opportunity to work toward entry into the best university system in the nation.

-Continued on page 2

Assembly Names Oliver Johnson Award Recipients

Professor Aimeé Dorr, UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, and **Professor Calvin C. Moore**, Department of Mathematics (UCB), were chosen as the 2004 co-recipients of the Senate’s [Oliver Johnson Award for Distinguished Senate Leadership](#). Professors Dorr and Moore will be honored at the Annual Senate Chairs’ Dinner scheduled for July 21, 2004.

ELIGIBILITY, continued from page 1

So, we'll soon be recommending that some eligibility rules be tightened and that certain academic criteria be strengthened to return to 12.5%, but we do not want to lose sight of our institutional commitment to the public of California and our hope that all students will have a rigorous education and the opportunity to attend a California university. Not everyone will agree with BOARS' proposal for how to achieve a reduction in eligibility, but you can be assured that we have worked hard to maintain high academic quality while balancing our public responsibility of access. [[Click here](#) for a summary of the current terms and conditions for UC eligibility, admissions, selection and enrollment.]

-Barbara Sawrey, BOARS Chair

(continued from page 1)

this year for award early in 2005. UC will certainly be bidding to continue its management of the Berkeley Lab.

Admissions. Barbara Sawrey, Chair of BOARS, has an extensive update on page 1. At the July Regents' meeting, the Senate plans to propose changes in UC student eligibility to conform to the [Master Plan](#) for Higher Education's mandate that the top 12.5% of California's public high school graduates be eligible for admission to UC. Eligibility and admissions has been much in the news this year, as you'll have noted.

Scholarly Communication. As you know, UC and Elsevier agreed to a 5-year contract that keeps UC's average annual costs over that time about the same as last year's contract. However, many questions remain about issues of access and affordability, both for periodicals and monographs. A [Senate Special Committee](#) will be exploring these questions over the next few years.

This year has been busy and exciting. Despite the budgetary and political stresses that we have faced and will continue to confront, UC and its faculty, as usual, performed at their powerful best, allowing UC to remain the world's premier system of public education. Have a great summer! - Lawrence Pitts

UPDATES and EVENTS

▶ On May 12, the Assembly endorsed the Academic Council's [Resolution on California's Budget Crisis and the University of California](#). The Resolution is intended to form the basis of the UC faculty's public advocacy campaign on the value of the University to the State.

▶ [President Dynes' report](#) to the May 12 Assembly.

▶ **Special Meeting of the Assembly Called.** A Special Meeting of the Assembly is scheduled for June 30 to consider a proposal from BOARS to adjust the index for student eligibility to UC. See feature article on page 1

▶ **Improved Retirement Recall Program.** The Academic Council endorsed a Resolution on a [Model Recall Plan for Post-Retirement Teaching](#).

▶ **UOEAP Announces New Faculty Directorships.** Appointments to more than 20 Education Abroad [Study Center Directorships](#) in 17 countries have been announced.

▶ **UCDC Directorship Recruitment.** Recruitment for a Director of the [UC Washington Center](#) will begin in early fall. This five-year appointment, beginning in September 2005, is open to all tenured UC faculty. The position will be posted in mid-summer and applications will be due by October 15.

▶ **New Tax Advantaged Retirement Savings Plan.** The Regents have approved a [new voluntary savings plan](#) that effectively doubles the amount of money UC employees may put into tax-advantaged retirement savings.

▶ **Citizenship Reporting Requirements for Grants.** A new memo providing [operating guidance for contracts and grants](#) that request information on citizenship, visa status, nationality or country of origin of employees under an award has been issued by UC's Office of Research Administration.

SENATE COMMITTEE EXAMINES "STRINGS" ON RESEARCH

-Kimberly Peterson

Since 9/11, new terms are beginning to appear in Requests for Proposals, proposal application forms, and award documents that could have an effect on the conduct of research and research outcomes. The University Committee on Research Policy (UCORP) is currently examining these and other requirements on research funding, and expects to issue a report in July. For a preliminary review of the nature, scope and impact of "strings" on research, [click here](#).

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

THE SENATE SOURCE
is published bi-monthly during the academic year (September - June), for UC faculty by the University of California Systemwide Senate.

Lawrence Pitts, 2003-04 Chair
Systemwide Academic Senate

Betty Marton, Lead Editor

Brenda Foust, Co-editor

Your comments are welcome.

Send to: senatenews@ucop.edu

SENATE FACULTY ENDORSES COMPETITION FOR NATIONAL LABS

In an electronic poll conducted in May by the Systemwide Senate, the UC Senate Faculty showed overwhelming support for UC to compete for continued management of the Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos National Labs by a 3-1 margin. [Click here](#) to learn more about the survey.

Under Senate Review

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

▶ [Professorial Step System Task Force Report](#) (6/11/04)

▶ University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity ([UCAAD](#)) [Proposed Revisions to APM](#) 210, 240 and 245—Appointment and Promotion (6/11/04)

[Click here](#) for a comprehensive list of items currently under review.