

**Notes
Council of Deans
October 7, 2008**

Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost's Announcement (Breslauer)

EVCP Breslauer announced that he has invited the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate to attend any future meetings in which they might be interested. Chair Mary Firestone and Vice Chair Christopher Kutz were welcomed to their first meeting.

UC is preparing for two to three years of reduced budgets as a result of the rippling effect of the U.S. financial crisis on the state economy. OP will soon be issuing the 2008-09 campus budget allocations and its guidelines for implementing budget cuts. EVCP Breslauer described some of the cost-cutting measures that are under consideration.

He said that faculty who are considering retirement should be advised that it would be to their financial benefit to retire now, rather than risk the unknowns of the economic downturn. The EVCP will send an email explaining this so that the deans can route it to faculty.

The prospect of multiple years of reduced resources requires the campus to be more strategic than ever about faculty hiring. Deans were advised to put faculty salary savings into TAS. In addition, units should start thinking strategically about their academic programs.

Chancellor's Remarks (Birgeneau)

Chancellor Birgeneau thanked the UREL staff for their work on the capital campaign kick off events. Despite the state of the economy, the Chancellor remains optimistic about reaching the \$3B campaign goal.

The multi-year impact of the state budget crisis is going to be a challenge for the University. UC might consider increasing student fees if the state imposes a mid-year budget cut.

The Chancellor has appointed a task force to recommend ways to align the campus's capital projects approval process and the process for seeking funds from multiple resources. VC Yeary will chair the task force.

Vice Chancellor – Research Search (Birgeneau)

Handout: Vice Chancellor – Research position description
<http://cio.chance.berkeley.edu/chancellor/Birgeneau/VCR-description.pdf>

The recruitment for the new VC for Research is underway. AVC Price has agreed to serve as interim VC when Beth Burnside steps down at the end of this month

2008-09 Budget Update (Brostrom/Costantinidis)

Handout: UC Berkeley Fall Financial Overview, dated Oct. 7, 2008

VC Brostrom and AVC Costantinidis gave an update on the 2008-09 budget situation. The campus met the Chancellor's 6% (\$18M) overall permanent cut, largely through salary and benefits savings from unfilled positions. A \$10M temporary budget cut was applied to unit carry-forwards and new commitments in order to fund central shortfalls. All STIP earnings were retained to help fund permanently unfunded needs. Annual block grants to units were continued but reduced by 7%. There still remains \$21.5M in unfunded needs that have to be paid this fiscal year.

The campus's five-year financial model for 2009-10 through 2012-13 appears now to be unsustainable. VC Brostrom said it was unlikely that the Governor will honor the compact with UC in 2008-09 and very serious reductions in state allocations are expected for several years into the future. The Chancellor's ability to fund activities is highly constrained.

VC Brostrom expressed optimism about generating new income through the Hewlett gift for endowed chairs, new debt strategies, enhanced investment management, continued expense control through the deficit resolution policy, the launch of the capital campaign, increased federal grant and contracts revenue, ongoing real estate initiatives, and the review of the administrative structure for potential efficiencies.

The campus will continue to focus on improving its budget processes and building a sustainable funding model. OP is also reducing its costs and striving to develop a funding model that is transparent, direct, and accountable. Campuses are engaged in discussions with OP about being able to keep all funds generated on the campuses, e.g., student fees, indirect cost recovery on research grants and contracts, auxiliary and self-supporting revenues, and gift and endowment income.

Online Retention and Recruitment Reporting (Zedeck)

VP Zedeck demonstrated a new, locally-developed Web-based system which was created as a tool to help chairs keep an active log of actions and commitments associated with faculty retention and recruitment cases. The database will also satisfy a requirement of the Hewlett Foundation's challenge grant, which asked that the campus to provide it with annual reports on faculty retention. The system is intended for use by department chairs, but deans will also have access. The VP-AAFW will also use the system as an information resource for retention and recruitment cases that are brought to his attention. VP Zedeck will email the deans with instructions on how to test the new system and send him feedback. Dean Broughton asked if the system is designed for retention and recruitment cases that involve more than one department. VP Zedeck said that that will have to be addressed.

Three Summer Ninths Issue (Breslauer)

EVCP Breslauer continued the discussion about federal requirements for effort reporting and the payment of summary salaries. There are 78 faculty members who are paid three summer ninths by federal agencies. The federal government considers these payments as pay for working and a commitment not to take summer vacation during the three months. The group talked briefly about the compliance issues associated with the federal government's interpretation of summer salaries.

Academic Affairs (Zedeck)

Dual Tenured Appointments

VP Zedeck will discuss this at a future meeting.

Partner Policy

Handout: Draft Partner Hiring Guidelines and Procedures, dated September 23, 2008.

VP Zedeck distributed the handout for discussion at the next meeting.

Fall Workshops

The deans received a list of fall workshops for department chairs and faculty.

Equity and Inclusion (Basri)

VC Basri is going to send out data for discussion at a future meeting. As an example, he displayed a slide entitled "UC Berkeley Letters and Science Division of Social Sciences. Diversity Pipeline AY 2008-09."

Please send comments to jfong@berkeley.edu. Council of Deans agendas and notes are available on the Web at <http://evcp.chance.berkeley.edu/CouncilOfDeans/indexCOD.htm>.