

**Notes  
Council of Deans  
September 15, 2009**

*Note: VP Shelly Zedeck convened this meeting on behalf of EVCP Breslauer, who was away on university business.*

**Announcements**

AVC Waggener advised units to be careful when eliminating telephone land lines as part of their cost-cutting measures. Safety regulations require that there be an adequate number of easy-to-find land lines for building occupants to use in an emergency.

AVC Waggener also announced that this month, the campus will be collaborating with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to launch a new voice mail for the campus. The change will lower campus phone rates and return \$1M in savings to the units.

**Graduate Fellowship Matching Program and Block Grants (Szeri)**

Dean Szeri announced that as of the end of 2008-09, the University had raised a total of \$96M for graduate student support, with two-thirds going towards endowments and one-third for current use funds. The total does not include \$55M, which will be received as part of the Hewlett endowed chairs, and a recent gift of \$2M to support engineering graduate students.

In relation to the Campaign for Berkeley, the Graduate Division is going to allocate for 2009-10 an additional \$1M in block grants as a matching contribution for endowment funds raised under the Graduate Fellowships Matching Program (GFMP). The \$1M will be distributed year-by-year in the form of current use funds. A CalMessage will be sent to deans and chairs within the week.

Dean Broughton asked if the GFMP fellowships were to be applied solely to support research or if they could be used to pay GSI salaries. Dean Szeri agreed to ask the VC-UREL Office about the parameters surrounding the use of GFMP funds.

**Items from the VP-AAFW (Zedeck)**

Academic Personnel Policy Revisions:

Input from the deans has been used to finalize the draft documents on

- Dual Tenured and Tenure-track Appointments
- Proposal to Create a Value to Berkeley Assessment
- Guidelines for Step VI reviews

The final versions will be posted on the APO and VPAAFW websites and announced in an upcoming email to deans and chairs.

Based upon feedback from the deans we removed the section on a larger-than-normal increment either to Above Scale or within Above Scale from the document on criteria for faculty step accelerations. This document is still under discussion with the BC.

In regard to the draft policy on external letters, VP Zedeck initiated a discussion about the acceptance of unsolicited letters received for external candidates in open recruitments for faculty and deans. The deans did not approve of this, based on the belief that unsolicited letters can come with hidden agendas and that the acceptance of such letters might place the University at risk. In the absence of time, VP Zedeck asked the deans to email him any additional comments about the above and the other draft documents which he distributed at the last meeting. He will consult with Legal Affairs on the matter concerning unsolicited letters.

The deans will soon receive the latest annual AAUDE data from AVC Hengstler's office.

#### Systemwide Walkout:

VP Zedeck and the deans talked about the September 24 systemwide faculty walk out. VP Zedeck said that Chancellor Birgeneau and EVCP Breslauer preferred to remain neutral about the walk out, but were concerned about how it might affect the campus's ability to fulfill its educational mission. The deans agreed. AVC Upshaw proposed and the group agreed to send an email to deans and chairs modeled on one sent by former EVCP Gray during the last campus work stoppage. The message will focus on what department chairs can do within the bounds of UC policy, to approve changes in class meeting times and locations in the event an instructor informs them that he or she does not plan to teach.

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