Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction and Elections
Annual Report 2020-21

To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

The Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction and Elections (RJE) provides clarification and interpretation of Senate legislation and Divisional procedures. It also exercises formal supervision over Senate elections and proposed modifications to the Senate manual, prior to action by the Faculty Legislature. Business is generally conducted via email, but this year there were three committee meetings held via Zoom. The committee and Senate staff processed the following proposals during 2020-21.

**Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation (SR) 544 - Cross-Campus Enrollment**
RJE discussed proposed revisions to Senate Regulation (SR) 544 – Cross-Campus Enrollments, which would facilitate student access to courses on other UC campuses. RJE approved of the changes, but suggested that the his/her language be changed to gender neutral terminology.

**Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation (SR) 630 - Senior Residency Requirement**
RJE discussed the proposed revisions to Senate Regulation (SR) 630 – Senior Residency Requirement, which has been confusing and interpreted differently across campuses. The proposed changes would simplify the regulation and clarify that students need to satisfy the majority of their upper division coursework through their home campus. RJE approved of the changes.

**Divisional Bylaw 95: Committee on Diversity and Equity**
RJE reviewed the proposed revision to Bylaw 95: Committee on Diversity and Equity, adding the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as an ex officio member. The Committee on Diversity and Equity unanimously approved this change. RJE approved of this ex officio addition. The Faculty Legislature approved the revision at its meeting of October 22, 2020.

**Divisional Bylaw 100: Committee on International Education**
RJE reviewed the proposed revisions to Bylaw 100: Committee on International Education (CIE), which had been approved by CIE. Changes included adding the Director of the Education Abroad Program as an ex officio member (this has been practice for years but has not been in the bylaw), removing the last line of the Membership section, as this is not in practice, and removing the line about Graduate and Undergraduate Councils in C-3. RJE approved of these changes. The Faculty Legislature approved the revisions at its meeting of March 11, 2021.

**Divisional Regulation 335: Requirements for the Master of Environmental Data Science (M.E.D.S.)**
RJE reviewed the proposed new Regulation 335: Requirements for the Master of Environmental Data Science (M.E.D.S.). The new graduate program in Environmental Data Science was approved by Faculty Legislature April 18, 2019, and ultimately received approval by the UC President. However, the new regulation governing the M.E.D.S. degree was not reviewed and approved at that time. RJE found the new Regulation 335 to be similar to and in compliance with the other Master’s degree regulations, and approved its addition to Santa Barbara Division Regulations. The Faculty Legislature approved the new regulation at its meeting of October 22, 2020.

**Systemwide Review of Proposed Revision of Senate Regulation 610, Defining Residency**
RJE reviewed the proposed revisions to Senate Regulation (SR) 610 – Defining Residency, which would codify a more liberal interpretation of campus residency by not restricting residency to mean physical
presence on a campus. RJE supported these changes

**Systemwide Review of Proposed Revision of Senate Bylaw 336.F.3**
RJE reviewed the proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 336.F.3, which would add language about now required hearings at the Title IX phase for cases involving SVSH. RJE found the changes to be consistent with the UC principles of shared governance. RJE did find some of the wording in the proposed language confusing, and provided suggested re-wording.

**SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program Policy**
RJE reviewed the proposed SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program Policy. Overall, RJE supported the vaccination policy, but questioned how compliance would be verified. In addition, some members of the committee expressed concern that the possibility of requiring repeat vaccinations or boosters into the indefinite future may be too far reaching, and that it might be better to formulate the current proposal as being of finite duration. Such a policy could be amended or extended at a later time.

**Student Petition Concerning the European Traditions Requirement**
RJE reviewed the student petition concerning the European Traditions requirement. Some members voiced their support for the change, while one member stated that they could not support the change without a principled reason for it. RJE did think that the current wording seemed ambiguous. In particular, it should be made very clear whether the new version of Divisional Senate Regulation 185 will require one course or two in the history, thought, and practices of one or more world cultures, and whether there will be a requirement to include two different cultures or whether one will suffice.

**Undergraduate Academic Policy During COVID-19**
RJE was asked to weigh in on undergraduate academic policy during COVID-19. The Undergraduate Council put policies in place for winter, spring, and summer 2021 to support students struggling with the conditions of the pandemic. These policy adjustments included extending the grading option deadline, allowing departments to offer major and pre-major courses with optional grading, exempting passed units earned during this time period to count towards the University Letter Grade Requirement, and permitting students on academic probation to take courses Passed/Not Passed (P/NP).

Divisional Regulation 35 details provisions of P/NP grading. Last spring, RJE agreed that one-time waivers to Regulation 35 restrictions could be made. RJE suggested that emergency actions could be taken for winter 2021, but that actions for further quarters should be taken to the Faculty Legislature to discuss and vote upon.

**Senate Manual Revisions**
RJE held two meetings with the Senate staff policy workgroup to discuss potential revisions to Senate Bylaws and Regulations. The policy workgroup has been tasked with a thorough review of the Divisional Senate Manual, which has not been updated in quite some time. Some Bylaw revisions were to be sent to Faculty Legislature for final approval, including:

**Divisional Bylaw 35: Councils and Committees**
RJE reviewed a proposed modification to Divisional Bylaw 35:F: Councils and Committees. Language would be added to state that Senate council and committee members cannot “hold any administrative appointment of department chair or higher”. RJE saw no conflicts between this proposed change and other bylaws. The committee members supported codifying long-standing practices and specifically supported the principle of avoiding conflicts of interest.
between agents of the administration and agents of the faculty. However, some RJE members wondered whether department chairs should occasionally be allowed to serve. The Faculty Legislature approved the revision at its meeting of April 29, 2021.

**Divisional Bylaw 50: Executive Council**

RJE reviewed the proposed revisions to Bylaw 50: Executive Council, which had been approved by the Council. Changes included updating the Purpose, making Membership consistent with other Council bylaws, and having Duties more accurately reflect current practice. RJE approved these changes. The Faculty Legislature approved the revisions at its meeting of June 3, 2021.

**Divisional Bylaw 60: Council on Faculty Welfare, Academic Freedom, and Awards**

RJE reviewed the proposed revisions to Bylaw 60: Council on Faculty Welfare, Academic Freedom, and Awards, which had been approved by CFW. Changes included making Membership consistent with other Council bylaws, removing the Executive Committee which is not an active subcommittee, updating and adding all Senate Award subcommittees which have been operating for many years, and having Duties more accurately reflect current practice. RJE approved these changes. The Faculty Legislature approved the revisions at its meeting of June 3, 2021.

**Divisional Bylaw 75: Graduate Council**

RJE reviewed the proposed revisions to Bylaw 75: Graduate Council, which had been approved by GC. Changes included making Membership consistent with other Council bylaws, removing all standing subcommittees which have not met for at least the previous decade, and having Duties more accurately reflect current practice. RJE approved these changes. The Faculty Legislature approved the revisions at its meeting of June 3, 2021.

**Divisional Bylaw 170: Meetings of the Division and Divisional Bylaw 180: Order of Business**

RJE reviewed the proposed revisions to Bylaw 170: Meetings of the Division and Bylaw 180: Order of Business. Changes included clarifying the procedures for special and emergency meetings, removing the word “disability” and simply stating “absence” for when the Senate Chair is not present, and bringing Bylaw 180:B:1 in line with current practice for approving minutes. The Faculty Legislature approved the revisions at its meeting of January 14, 2021.

**2020-21 Divisional Election**

In consultation with RJE, the Academic Senate Office conducted its annual nomination process in an effort to seek candidates for the election of three Senate Assembly Representatives, and three members of the Committee on Committees.

**Senate Assembly Representatives**

A total of three Senate members were nominated for the position of Senate Assembly Representative; one nomination was declined. As there were three open positions, a ballot was not conducted. Chuck Akemann of Mathematics and Elizabeth Perez of Religious Studies received the requisite number of endorsements and were appointed to serve as Senate Assembly Representatives. The Committee on Committees filled the remaining open position.

**Committee on Committees**

A total of thirteen Senate members were nominated to serve on the Committee on Committees; seven candidates declined to accept.
A total of two candidates were nominated for Area A: College of Letters and Science Mathematical, Life and Physical Sciences Division and Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management. As there were two nominees for one available position, a ballot was conducted from February 17 - March 3, 2021, with the following results:

Alison Butler (Chemistry and Biochemistry) - 51.92% (54 votes)
Patricia Holden (Bren School of Environmental Science and Management) - 47.12% (49 votes)

Alison Butler received the most votes for Area A: College of Letters and Science Mathematical, Life and Physical Sciences Division and Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management.

A total of four candidates were nominated for Area C: College of Letters and Science Humanities and Fine Arts Division and College of Creative Studies. As there were four nominees for one available position, a ballot was conducted from February 17 - March 3, 2021, with the following results:

Anthony Barbieri (History) - 10.78% (11 votes)
Antonio Cortijo (Spanish and Portuguese) - 10.78% (11 votes)
Kate L. McDonald (History) - 49.02% (50 votes)
Greg Siegel (Film and Media Studies) - 29.41% (30 votes)

Kate L. McDonald received the most votes for Area C: College of Letters and Science Humanities and Fine Arts Division and College of Creative Studies.

As there were no faculty nominations for the position in Area B (College of Letters and Science Social Sciences Division and Gevirtz Graduate School of Education), this position was filled by an appointment by the Committee on Committees.

RJE Members, 2020-21
Don Marolf, Chair
Hugo Loaiciga, Parliamentarian
Glenn Fredrickson
Ruth Hellier
Ross Melnick
David Sherman
Eric Smith
Kelly Rivera
Professor, Physics
Professor, Geography
Professor, Chemical Engineering
Professor, Music
Associate Professor, Film & Media Studies
Professor, Psychological & Brain Sciences
Professor, Political Science
Advisor