To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division

2015-16 Members
Peter Bloom, Associate Professor, Film and Media Studies
Jordan Clark, Professor, Earth Science and Environmental Studies
Barry Giesbrecht, Professor, Psychological and Brain Sciences
John Foran, Professor, Sociology
Diane Fujino, Professor, Asian American Studies
Nuha Khoury, Associate Professor, History of Art and Architecture
Melvin Oliver, Executive Dean, College of Letters and Science (ex officio)
Carl Gutierrez-Jones, Interim Dean, Undergraduate Education (ex officio)

No Associated Students representative was named to the FEC this year, despite repeated invitations and requests from the committee to the Associated Students President and staff. A meeting with AS Assistant Director for Government Affairs in winter revealed ongoing interest in working with the FEC, and we hope for a return of AS representation the future.

In response to the FEC’s invitation, the Graduate Students Association named Timothy Irvine, GSA Vice President for Committees and Planning, as its representative to the L&S Faculty Executive Committee. Timothy was named to the committee during winter quarter and thereafter became a regular attendee and contributor to the committee’s discussions.

At its meeting on October 1, 2015, the FEC re-elected Nuha Khoury as FEC Chair, and she offers this Annual Report for the academic year 2015-16.

Executive Summary 2015-16
In 2015-16 the FEC deliberated on a number of important issues, and was particularly alert to continuing increases in the numbers of undergraduates, including transfer students, and the ways in which they will be accommodated by the campus and undergraduate division in order to insure degree choices and timely matriculation. The FEC was particularly attentive to related UCOP-imposed curricular reviews that lack long-term consideration of quality of degree. These issues call for special vigilance in future FEC considerations of pertinent curricular policies in order to assess their impact on our campus and insure the continued excellence of our programs. Although most FEC business is generated by L&S departments and senate bodies, the FEC is also capable of generating its own reviews and actions; the FEC reasserted its determination to more actively utilize its authority in both monitoring and initiating examination of specific issues as well as broader academic and programmatic ones. Areas that require continued attention include new departmental and cross-departmental programs currently proposed or on offer, with an eye to ensuring absence of competition that might negatively impact degree programs, the availability of required (and promised) courses, the overall academic pathways of undergraduate students in L&S, and the value added to the academic degree. In addition, the FEC noted an increase in the number of interdepartmental programs, and has raised questions about the appropriate departmental homes of such programs, the nature and composition of their oversight committees, and where authority resides in decisions for changes, among other matters.
In consultation with other senate committees, for the 2015-16 academic year the FEC altered the due dates for departmental and academic program requests for curricular reviews and changes. The adjusted timeline proved difficult for the reviewing agencies, as insufficient time was allotted for requesting additional clarification and revision. The FEC has responded by instituting a maximum deadline of end of February as the absolute latest date by which new curricular proposals could be submitted to the FEC, to allow sufficient time for substantive committee review. This deadline will take effect in 2016-17.

In regard to systemwide policy matters, the FEC noted that the “Best Practices for Diversifying UC Faculty” was actually a proposal to better utilize PPDs and PFFs, and advised a re-naming of the initiative. The FEC continues to call for clearer definition of “diversity” on our campuses and clearer guidance on how “diversity” will be valued in personnel cases.

As outlined within the report, the FEC continues to take seriously its responsibilities in administering awards under its supervision, including the Plous and Mochizuki memorial awards, and considered options for streamlining administration of these awards.

The FEC benefited greatly from the participation and insights of its ex-officio members, Executive Dean Melvin Oliver and Dean of Undergraduate Education Carl Gutierrez-Jones. The appointment and subsequent loss of Dean Gutierrez-Jones as Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean, and the loss of Executive Dean Oliver mean new roles and members of the FEC in 2016-17. Unusually, the FEC also saw the term ends of three of its members this year: John Foran, Diane Fujino, and Peter Bloom. We anticipate a highly renewed FEC in 2016-17, with a new chair, vice-chair/secretary, three new members, and two new ex-officio members.

**Issues and Actions**

The FEC deals with issues at the level of the College, the campus, and the university as a whole. Overall, the FEC’s work can be grouped into the following categories:

- Curricular Matters, Learning Outcomes, Adjustments to Programs and Centers
- College-initiated or College-specific issues
- Academic Program Reviews and Accreditation
- Policy Matters
- Annual Awards
- FEC Membership and Elections

Details are provided below.

**Curricular and Academic Matters including Name Changes and Dis/Establishment of Centers**

In 2015-16 the FEC reviewed and ultimately endorsed the following academic adjustments:

A. Changes to new B.S. in Psychological and Brain Sciences
B. Changes to the Pre-Biological Sciences Major
C. Changes to the B.A. in Geography, Emphasis in Geographic Information Science
D. Changes to the Spanish Major and Minor and subsequent request to delay implementation to fall 2017
E. Establishment of a new Minor in Language and Speech Technologies within the Linguistics Department
F. Establishment of a new Emphasis in Language and Speech Technologies for the B.A. in Linguistics
G. Changes to the B.A. in Middle East Studies
H. Changes to the B.A. in Music Studies, including emphases in Ethnomusicology and in Interdisciplinary Studies
I. Changes to the B.A. in Classics, emphases in Classical Language and Literature, Classical Archeology, Greek and Roman Culture
J. Changes to the Art Minor: Art & Technology Track and the Public Practice Track
K. Establishment of a new Minor in Translation Studies within the Comparative Literature Program
L. Changes to the Program Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Physics and the B.A. in Physics
M. Changes to Learning Outcomes for General Education Area E - Culture & Thought
N. Changes to the B.A. in German
O. Changes to the B.A. in Theater
P. Reduction of upper division unit requirements for the following:
   a. Linguistics Department - B.A. in Linguistics, with emphases in Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Slavic, Spanish
   c. MCDB Department - B.S. in Microbiology and B.S. in Pharmacology
   d. Asian American Studies Department – B.A. in Asian American Studies
   e. Geography Department- B.S. in Physical Geography
Q. Online courses (being developed through ILTI or through UCSB Summer Sessions):
   CHEM W 109C (initial offering)
   DANCE W 36
   EARTH W 20
   EEMB W 22
   FEMST W 150
   MCDB W 138 (initial offering)
   PSTAT W 182T
   THTR W 19
   The campus's first proposed online graduate course (MCDB W 236) prompted discussions between the Chair of the FEC and the Chair of Graduate Council regarding procedures for reviewing and approving such courses.

In 2016-17 the FEC will continue to review the following items that did not receive full approval:
R. English Department - Establishment of a new Minor in Environmental Humanities
S. Theater and Dance Department - Establishment of a new Minor in Dance History
T. SPAN W 154A-C – an online (three-course) series in Basque Language & Culture proposed by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

At the graduate level, the FEC reviewed and endorsed
U. Suspension of admission to the Master of Arts in Economics
V. Establishment of an Emphasis in Chemical Education within the M.A. in Chemistry
W. Suspension of admission to the Ph.D. in Chicana/o Studies for the 2016-17 cycle and subsequent continuation of that suspension through the 2017-18 cycle.

Further, the FEC participated in the General Catalog Committee, endorsed establishment of a Center for Terahertz Science and Technology, and concurred with the Registrar’s proposal on simultaneous enrollment in other UC campuses.

Under its authority, the FEC also
X. approved curriculum changes not considered to be significant to the academic program (labeled as ‘housekeeping changes’)
Y. ruled on a grade appeal
Z. has another grade appeal under consideration.
**Academic Reviews**

The FEC considers an important part of its charge to be participation in the academic reviews of programs and departments within or impacting the College of Letters and Science. During 2015-16 the FEC participated in academic program reviews of:

- Department of Geography
- Department of Spanish and Portuguese
- Department of History of Art and Architecture
- Department of Political Science
- BioMolecular Science and Engineering Program (continued from the previous year).

In addition, the FEC submitted its recommendations for future members of PRP.

**Policy Matters**

The FEC reviewed and provided its judgment on the following systemwide items:

- Latest revisions to the Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, as a follow-up to 2014-15 actions and comments
- Report from the Joint Committee of the Administration and Academic Senate on Faculty Discipline related to Sexual Violence, Assault, and Harassment
- Report of the Retirement Options Task Force
- Best Practices for Diversifying the UC Faculty, which was actually a proposal to better utilize President’s Postdoctoral Fellows (PPFs) and Chancellor’s Fellows (CFs)
- Guiding Principles for Search Waivers for UC Academic Appointees at the University of California, which was the creation of the UC Recruit Governance Board

At the campus level, the FEC provided its opinion on:

- Red Binder revisions, focusing particularly on sections related to diversity and equal opportunity contributions (I-27 and I-35)
- Campus Five-Year Perspective.

- Also at the campus level, the FEC was expecting but did not receive a requested update on the ESCI online pilot project wherein course and instructor evaluations are collected digitally rather than via paper surveys administered during the class period. Given the level of concern expressed about the initial results of this pilot project, the FEC is keen to receive an update before the project is considered for full implementation.

**Annual Awards**

The FEC reviewed and ratified the selection of the Mochizuki Award winners from the Departments of Mathematics and East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies. Two students and one lecturer received the 2015-16 Mochizuki memorial awards. The Committee also initiated discussion on possible revisions to the procedures for determining these annual awards, as allowable under the award’s terms and conditions, to insure the continued financial health of this award in the future. FEC officers met over the summer with the Chairs of the two Departments involved, to gain their input before making a determination. This item will be continued in the upcoming academic year.

The FEC authorized a Selection Committee to determine the 2016-17 Harold J. Plous Award winner. At its meeting on June 2, 2016, the FEC announced Sherene Seikaly (History) as the 2016-17 Plous Awardee.
Correcting a past omission, this year the FEC celebrated Prof. Emerita Sarah Cline, 1986-87 recipient of the Plous Award who had not previously received her award.

The FEC determined to discuss with the Senate Awards Committee whether that committee would take over administration of the Plous award in future, to bring it more into alignment with other faculty awards processes.

**FEC Membership and Elections**

♦ Modified bylaws were forwarded to RJE clarifying that no two active members shall be from the same academic department, to ensure broadest representation of the faculty.

♦ The committee invited Associated Students Assistant Director for Government Affairs, LaDonte King, to its meeting on 1/28/16 to discuss the lack of response from Associated Students in naming a representative to the 2015-16 FEC.

♦ Diane Fujino, John Foran, and Peter Bloom completed their three-year terms with the FEC. Thus there were three vacancies for the 2016-17 committee.

♦ Two openings in the Social Sciences (SOCS) and one opening in Humanities and Fine Arts (HFA) were advertised to faculty and a call for nominations was issued.

♦ Two nominations were received from Social Sciences. Per UCSB Divisional Academic Senate Bylaw 195, these uncontested nominees were certified at the FEC meeting on May 5, 2016:

  Paige Digeser, Professor of Political Science, to a three-year term on the FEC,
  Ralph Armbruster-Sandoval, Associate Professor of Chicana/o Studies, to a three-year term on the FEC.

♦ Five nominations were received from HFA. Faculty in the HFA division voted to select their FEC representative, and on May 19, 2016, the FEC certified the election of:

  Sherene Seikaly, Associate Professor of History, to a three-year term on the FEC.