FACULTY LEGISLATURE MINUTES
April 19, 2018

The Faculty Legislature of the Santa Barbara Division met in Library Conference Room 1575 at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2018, with Chair Henning Bohn presiding. The meeting was attended by 22 voting members, 3 ex officio members, and other interested parties.

2017-18 Awards Announcements

Faculty Research Lecturer, Presented by Charles Samuel, Committee on Faculty Research Lecturer Chair

Umesh Mishra

On behalf of the Faculty Research Lecturer Committee of the Academic Senate, I am pleased to announce the selection of Professor Umesh Mishra, a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, as this year’s Faculty Research Lecturer. This is the highest honor that the UCSB faculty can bestow on one of its members. Professor Mishra has been selected in recognition of his extraordinary achievements in research and scholarly work, in the area of semiconductor devices. His research has had an international impact in his field in ways that have greatly benefited society, for example through energy efficient communication and energy conversion technologies.

Professor Mishra received his Ph.D. from Cornell and then worked in the private sector, with GE where he worked on the perfection of transistors and the technology necessary for transmission of weak signals over large distances. He then continued his transistor research at Hughes Research Labs, making discoveries key for satellite applications including TV broadcasting and military radars.

Professor Mishra held academic positions at NC State and University of Michigan before joining UCSB about 25 year ago where he became globally recognized for his work on high performance electronic devices with novel materials, notably Gallium Nitride electronics. As noted by his nominator, this includes GaN transistors declared by the IEEE publication Spectrum as “the toughest transistors yet”, touted for “high power and high frequencies on GaN (gallium nitride) can deliver.

The practical applications of Professor Mishra’s discoveries—he is an inventor with >100 patents—led to the founding of 2 companies in Goleta to bring research achievements to practice. The
significance of his research also was noted in 2012 by the Assistant Secretary of Defense before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services.

Professor Mishra has more than 800 scholarly publications and an H index >100. Professor Mishra has served as Chair of the ECE Department. Professor Mishra has mentored >60 Ph.D. students now in academia and industry, and 2 were Lancaster award recipients here at UCSB.

Professor Mishra has received numerous awards including the Aarnoff Award from IEEE (the largest international engineering society), the Welker Medal, and the IEEE Distinguished Educator Award. He is a Fellow of IEEE, a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, and a Member of the National Academy of Engineering. Prof. Mishra is a truly distinguished member of our faculty.

One component of the FRL award is the honor of presenting a lecture during the upcoming year to the campus community and broader public, so we will have an opportunity to hear about Prof Mishra’s work next year. In addition there is an honorarium that goes with the FRL Award.

Once again, congratulations on receiving this distinct honor in acknowledgement of the exceptional quality of your research.

Distinguished Teaching Awards, Presented by Heather Stoll, Committee on Distinguished Teaching Awards Chair

Donald Aue

A member of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Professor Aue has taught an incredible number of students since he joined the UCSB faculty in 1968. To maintain passion and high standards in most any form of endeavor is commendable and difficult. To do so over a fifty year span is remarkable. As teachers we can never be sure just how our lectures, our seminars, even our office hours will influence our students. Yet over such a long and distinguished career it is certain that Professor Aue has influenced thousands of careers. As one former student writes, “because of his mentorship, I have acquired a deep passion for research and shaped my dream to lead a research laboratory as a professor at an academic institute. Like Dr. Aue, I will seek expertise in my field and spread knowledge by investing in the students I meet throughout my academic journey.” In Professor Aue’s nomination packet the awards committee found a professor fully dedicated to teaching, to finding new and creative ways to bring that teaching to his students and a person who has truly united teaching and research - the goal of this award. It is our pleasure to award Dr. Donald Aue the 2018 Distinguished Teaching Award. Congratulations!
Sathya Guruswamy

Sathya Guruswamy is a dedicated, generous, and innovative teacher in the Department of Physics and in the Physics Program of the College of Creative Studies—indeed, a vital link between the two. She has contributed to the enrichment of every aspect of Physics study at UCSB: recruiting new students, creating study-abroad programs, developing new courses that pioneer interactive and collaborative learning methods, mentoring graduate students and helping them secure awards and fellowships. Dr. Guruswamy’s commitment to teaching is an inspiration to her students and her TAs. As one physics graduate student wrote, “her drive and dedication to the students is infectious, making me want to put in the same level of dedication and care myself...she is a teacher whom I would have been happy to take a class from and whom I seek to imitate in my own teaching.” And, as one of her undergraduate students succinctly put it: “she has made pedagogy an art.” Dr. Guruswamy devotes a great deal of time to her students outside of the classroom as well, from offering extended office hours and supplemental lectures to discussing career plans and checking in on the well-being of her students. In all of these endeavors, Dr. Guruswamy has nurtured an abiding spirit of inquiry and has had a profound impact on her students. As one former student wrote: “Learning from Dr. Guruswamy has been one of the most profound academic experiences I have ever had…Every day that we had class, I would look forward to learning from her. I wish that she taught every Physics class I had taken.” In recognition of her excellence in teaching and commitment to her students in all stages of their careers, it is our pleasure to award Dr. Guruswamy the 2018 Distinguished Teaching Award. Congratulations!

Joe McFadden

The Committee on Distinguished Teaching is delighted to give to Professor Joseph McFadden the Distinguished Teaching Award for 2017-2018. Professor McFadden has demonstrated excellence in teaching across the curriculum: teaching large enrollment undergraduate courses, smaller upper-division courses, and graduate courses, performing exceptionally at all levels. One of the many things that distinguishes Professor McFadden’s teaching is his commitment to pedagogical innovation, especially in his lecture course addressing Remote Sensing of the Environment and his upper-division course on The Urban Environment. Whether he is employing “artist Abelardo Morell's camera obscura photographs,” his son’s Lego blocks, or the empirical data his students gather at visits to field sites, Professor McFadden finds creative ways to teach his students what it means to see differently, to assess evidence rigorously, and to pose and answer critical questions concerning the “ecology and climatology” of the environments in which they and others live. Professor McFadden’s teaching is also distinguished by the care and attention he gives to his students. As you might imagine, students’ insights weigh heavily in the conferring of such awards. And it is clear that Professor McFadden’s students love him. Words that came up with some frequency in student letters written on his behalf were passion, enthusiasm, creativity, and care. As one student writes: “Prof. McFadden is fantastic - he genuinely cares about his students.” Another writes that Professor McFadden’s “teaching capabilities are a prime example of what university professors should strive towards.” And
finally: “I cannot think of any other professor who is more deserving of this honor.” The Teaching Award committee thanks Professor McFadden for his distinguished service.

John Mohr

The Academic Senate is pleased to award Professor Mohr with a Distinguished Teaching Award for 2017-18. Students describe Professor Mohr’s courses as “life changing,” “great and inspiring,” and movingly describe how he has profoundly touched their lives in a way that no other professor has --- how he is “kind” and a “gentleman” and the “standard-bearer of the intellectual” that they aspired to be when applying to graduate school --- how they are where they are today, as scholar-practitioners or academics, because of his support and encouragement. Professor Mohr’s students and peers commend his hands-on, innovative, and path-breaking approach to the classroom, where students learn cutting-edge techniques and actually engage in research, pursuing projects related to their interests and through group collaboration. In all of his courses, Professor Mohr finds “ways of linking the substance of the course to students’ current experiences or contemporary events, developing innovative ways of connecting advanced course materials and cutting-edge research methods with students’ lives and experiences.” Professor Mohr successfully integrates research and teaching in a way that few academics manage to do. This teaching style “empowers students to take risks in their learning and thus expands their knowledge of topics that otherwise may seem daunting” and “makes learning more meaningful.” He has also excelled at teaching a range of courses --- undergraduate and graduate, small and large, core theory and methods --- over his career, including some of the most challenging and labor-intensive ones in the major; developed a number of new courses (such as one on “big data” [computational sociology]); and has gone out of his way to involve his graduate students in his advanced research projects, such as his NSF-funded “Big Data” project. In sum, his excellence in all of the areas considered for the Distinguished Teaching Award, from innovativeness in the classroom to student mentorship, makes him a most deserving recipient of the award. Thank you, and congratulations!

Sherene Seikaly

The Academic Senate is pleased to award Sherene Seikely with a Distinguished Teaching Award for 2017-18. Students commend her unique and innovative teaching style that allows space for open discussion. Instead of simply lecturing, Professor Seikely challenges students to think critically and with nuance about historical evidence and historical narratives through techniques ranging from having students create interactive lessons for the class based on the readings to dividing even large lectures into groups to discuss questions about the readings and “race[ing] up and down the aisles with a microphone so students could voice opinions.” Students commented that her “tireless efforts to include diverse voices empowered students to create a powerful learning experience where students also educate each other.” What is particularly striking is how Professor Seikely manages to create a “safe space for collective learning” in large courses dealing with controversial, politically and emotionally charged subjects, such as courses about Israel/Palestine. Students also commend her “unwavering dedication to her students,”
from editing and commenting upon weekly student work without a TA to her extensive and in-demand office hours to learning the names of each and every student, personally greeting them during the first class meeting. She has mentored both undergraduate and graduate students outside of the classroom, providing advice and support through personal crises and guiding their progression through their academic studies. As a testament to her success as a mentor, Professor Seikely serves on an impressive number of Ph.D. and master’s committees for a scholar only two years tenured. Moreover, Professor Seikely has demonstrated excellence in teaching a wide range of classes at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, from the small to the large. She successfully integrates research and teaching in all of these classes, such as through her willingness to share her research ideas with her classes and to listen to her students’ feedback on her own work. In conclusion, to summarize what makes Professor Seikely such an exemplary professor, in her students’ words: she “nurtures both mind and heart.” As such, Professor Seikely excels in all of the areas considered for the Distinguished Teaching Award, despite still being at a relatively early stage of her career. The Academic Senate is thrilled to be able to recognize Sherene Seikely’s inspiring dedication to her students and her excellence in the classroom.

Scott Price

Dr. Price is a dedicated and engaging teacher and mentor both in and outside the classroom. As an instructor who teaches mainly large, introductory-level general chemistry courses, he often encounters students at the beginning of their college careers and it is clear that he has had a lasting impact on many students. His commitment to teaching is readily apparent to his students. As one former student commented, “Dr. Price put meticulous care into his lectures and teaching, and more importantly, did so because he loved it. His engagement with chemistry led to our engagement with chemistry, and I’m still astounded by how diligently I worked in his classes.” In addition to his outstanding teaching, Dr. Price devotes time to advising and mentoring his students even after they are no longer in his classes. One student, who is now in her first year of medical school, describes the profound impact Dr. Price had on her, writing that “he guided me through my educational and career options, and encouraged me when I felt overwhelmed...He is a great role model and I feel so fortunate to have had his support and guidance during my four years at UCSB.” Dr. Price is an exemplary educator, and we are very happy to award him the 2018 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Outstanding Graduate Mentor Awards, Presented by Heather Stoll, Committee on Distinguished Teaching Awards Chair

Michael Bowers

Michael Bowers is a Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, specializing in mass spectroscopy to study the structures of proteins, peptides and other biomolecules. A UCSB faculty member since 1968, Professor Bowers has supervised 40 Ph.D. students, with another 5 currently working under his guidance. Bowers is renowned for emphasizing teamwork in his laboratory and for building close relationships with the graduate and undergraduate students that work with him. One noted that “Mike makes every interaction a learning experience, where
he challenges you to think of the big picture and fundamentally understand every result.”
Another wrote that "Mike has consistently challenged me, but not in any overbearing way; [rather he does so] by having high expectations while allowing me to produce work in a way that doesn’t hinder my creativity." A former student, Dr. Gert von Helden, Senior research group leader at the Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society observed that "My firsthand experience in Mike’s labs was invaluable for my development as a scientist and I am extremely grateful for having had (and still having) the chance to benefit from Mike’s mentorship." 

In recognition of this extended record of excellence, we are happy to present the 2018 Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award to Professor Michael Bowers.

Richard Duran

Professor Richard Duran has been a faculty member in the Department of Education for the past 33 years, specializing in the study of literacy, learning, cognitive psychology, and educational assessment. During his career he has worked with 125 doctoral and 72 masters students—many of them from under-represented populations—who have gone on to careers in research, teaching, administration, and service.

One of his former students wrote that Professor Duran “taught me how to take numbers and make them humane and how to take personal needs and yield systemic change... He showed us what it means to be a good steward... It is unfathomable at times that as an immigrant who grew up in poverty I can be in the position of influence and service that I am today. I can confidently say that I would not be here today if it was not for Dr. Duran’s mentorship.”

The committee was not only impressed by Richard’s mentorship of graduate students but also his work with undergraduates, elementary school populations, and digital learning initiatives. In reviewing his dossier it became clear that Dr. Duran not only mentors his students, he creates networks of mutual support. He not only educates, he organizes and advocates. We are therefore delighted to present him with the 2018 Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award.

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards, Presented by Karen Lunsford, Committee on Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards Chair

Katie Adkison

Described as a "born teacher," Katie Adkison is a doctoral candidate in the English department. Faculty and student recommenders alike applaud Katie’s diligence, dedication, and decorum. One writes, "Her dedication to her role as a teacher and her sincere consideration and love for her students is so real and expressive you can feel it." Another student has high hopes of taking additional classes with Katie; they write, "she is amazing at enhancing and enriching her students’ educational experiences, and I feel like she still has so much knowledge that she would love to share with me." And yet another commends Katie for invigorating her passion for literary study. "Katie," she writes, "is the strong feminine [female] role model I needed at this
point in my life." On behalf of the UCSB Community and Academic Senate, we are delighted to present Katie Adkison with an Outstanding TA Award.

Jeremy Edwards

In terms of conviction, enthusiasm, thoughtfulness, modesty, and the simple belief that teaching can be transformative, one would be hard-pressed to find Jeremy's equal. A doctoral candidate in the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education and a TA for the Department of Black Studies, Jeremy is dedicated to ensuring students’ understanding of the course content and improving the overall quality of the instruction. One student comments that “Jeremy’s discussion sections were always interesting and stimulating. He showed his creativity as a Teaching Assistant by incorporating class discussions, small group discussions, video clips, music clips, and much more that was relevant to the course.” Jeremy has proven to be committed to providing an environment in which students feel encouraged to examine and think deeply about the coursework. As one student writes, “Jeremy’s interest in our academic progress and understanding of our course material made him one of the most effective teaching assistants that I have had the pleasure of taking a class with.” Jeremy is an exemplary educator, and we are pleased to award him the 2018 Outstanding Teaching Assistant award. Congratulations!

Kai Wasson

A member of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies, Kai Wasson is repeatedly praised by his nominators for exceeding the typical duties of a TA. One mentor describes how he helped design new materials for a lecture course to better assist students in understanding the materials. She concludes, "Ultimately, the majority of the students performed quite well and wrapped up the quarter with an innovative, self-designed "Zine" project ... for which Kai's support was absolutely critical." Students agree. One comments, "With Kai as my T.A, I felt almost immediately that he genuinely cared and had a huge desire to help everyone who asked for his help." That help extended to extra support during the Thomas Fire. Most of all, students praise his ability to help them think critically about their courses. As one student explains, Kai "empowered the students; he would not just answer questions and get it over with. He would ask the students questions, and by providing hints in the form of facts related to the topic, lead them to the answer." On behalf of the UCSB Community and Academic Senate, we are delighted to present Kai Wasson with an Outstanding TA Award.

Zoe Welch

As doctoral student in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology, Zoe Welch has demonstrated time and again that she is the epitome of the type of person this award is meant for. Not only have her student evaluations been phenomenal over the years, but both faculty and student letters show that she is held in nothing less than the highest respect as a teacher, and as a person. One faculty member went so far as to say: “I would stand on top of a building
and read this letter into a bullhorn.” Zoe has demonstrated not only outstanding teaching prowess, but also the desire and ability to go above and beyond to care for her students. Her students sing nothing but praise: “Zoe is the most caring and memorable teacher I have ever had. Her warm, encouraging attitude is apparent in every conversation we have, and I hope that all students are able to have a teacher like her in their lives.” Zoe’s teaching philosophy particularly stands out, opening with the line: “to believe that teaching is mere information transmission is to miss the point entirely.” Clearly, she brings that point to life through the classroom. We are pleased to award her the 2018 Outstanding Teaching Assistant award. Congratulations!

Announcements by the Chancellor (from the slides presented)

Thank you to Senate Chair Henning Bohn and to all of our faculty colleagues for your dedication to shared governance.

Academic Senate Awards
Congratulations again to our award recipients!
  Faculty Research Lecturer
  Distinguished Teaching Awards
  Outstanding Graduate Mentor Awards
  Outstanding Teaching Assistant Awards
We appreciate your extraordinary dedication to research, teaching, and mentorship!

Campus Updates and Highlights

Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin’s Visit
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, sponsor of AB 2664, joined us on March 16 as we launched SEED-SB, UC Santa Barbara’s initiative for innovation, entrepreneurship, and economic development, including our Wilcox New Venture Incubator (the “Garage”), and CNSI Technology Incubator and Innovation Workshop.

Deltopia Update
Deltopia 2018 news headlines:
“No Major Problems Reported in Isla Vista’s ‘Deltopia’ Street Party”
“Chill Deltopia in Warm Temperatures: Citations, Arrests Drop in Comparison to Past Years”

Students attended a campus-sponsored concert by Vince Staples and Baauer. Though arrests and citations were down for Deltopia 2018, the number of medical transports increased from last year.

First Annual UCSB Arts Walk
UCSB Arts Walk: An Open House of Visual & of Visual and Performing Arts took place on Wednesday, April 11, 4:30-8:00 p.m.
Thank you to our faculty sponsors and participants in our Departments of Music, Theater and Dance, and Art; College of Creative Studies; Art, Design, and Architecture Museum; MultiCultural Center; and Library.

Students, faculty staff, and community members were invited to visit galleries and studios, watch preview performances and behind-the-scenes rehearsals, and participate in programming designed to highlight the artistic creativity and talent of our UCSB community.

Give Day, April 12
Thank you for participating in UCSB Give Day! We raised $5.7 million from 1,511 donors in 24 hours.

Spring Insight Open House
We welcomed thousands of prospective students and their families to campus on April 14.

El Centro Celebration, April 14
The El Centro Arnulfo Casillas Restoration and Open House Celebration was held on Saturday, April 14.

Grad Slam – Final Round on April 20
Thank you to Dean Carol Genetti and all of our faculty participants in this year’s Grad Slam! The final round takes place tomorrow, April 20, 3-4:00 p.m. in Corwin Pavilion.

All Gaucho Reunion
The All Gaucho Reunion will take place April 26-29.

Plous Lecture, May 10, 2018
Professor Terence Keel (History, Black Studies) will deliver his Plous Lecture on May 10. Please join us!

Staff Celebration Week, May 14-18
Please join us in celebrating our staff colleagues, and thanking them for their invaluable contributions to our campus community.

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Congratulations to our newly elected members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences:
   Professor Leon Balents (Physics and KITP)
   Professor Craig Hawker (Materials, MRL, and Director of CNSI)
   Professor Ed Telles (Sociology)

Society of Architectural Historians
Congratulations to Professor Swati Chattopadhyay (History of Art and Architecture and Comparative Literature Program), elected Fellow of the Society of Architectural Historians.
Ecological Society of America
Congratulations to Professor Douglas McCauley (Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology and Director of the Benioff Ocean Initiative), elected Early Career Fellow of the Ecological Society of America.

APS Rising Stars
Congratulations to Assistant Professors Daniel Conroy-Beam and Zoe Liberman (Psychological and Brain Sciences), named “APS Rising Stars” by the Association for Psychological Science.

Sociology Ranked #1
College Factual 2018 Best Sociology Colleges in the U.S.
1. University of California – Santa Barbara is the best choice if you are thinking about a college degree in Sociology. University of California – Santa Barbara sociology students make 28.9% more than the standard sociology graduate.

Consent Calendar

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 1, 2018 meeting.

The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Announcements by the Chair

Chair Bohn reported on the Academic Council meeting of March 21, 2018 and the Academic Assembly meeting of April 11, 2018.

The Academic Council nominated, and the Academic Assembly elected Kum-Kum Bhavnani as Vice Chair of the 2018-19 Assembly. Dr. Bhavnani, Professor in the Department of Sociology, was the Chair of the Academic Senate at UCSB from 2012-16.

The Academic Assembly ratified the nominees for the 2018 Oliver Johnson Award. Professor Emeritus Duncan Mellichamp of UCSB and Professor Dan Simmons of UC Davis were selected to receive the award. The Oliver Johnson Award recognizes distinguished leadership in the Academic Senate.

The Assembly also approved the proposed changes to Senate Bylaw 128 regarding Conflict of Interest. The Santa Barbara Division does not have a formal policy on conflict of interest, and the passage of the Systemwide bylaw has provided the impetus to add a similar bylaw to the Divisional Senate Manual. The Systemwide change was motivated by an incident in one of the committees, and we would like to preempt any such issues at the campus level. Proposed Divisional Bylaw 35.K is being circulated broadly at this time, with the hope to being able to bring it before the Faculty Legislature in June.
President Napolitano has called on the Academic Senate to develop a guarantee program for transfer student admissions. Faculty have voiced concern about the minimal consultation that took place before the public announcement of the guarantee and the adoption of UC’s Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the California Community College System. It was noted that discussions of the systemwide Transfer Task Force were already leading in this direction. The details on how the guarantee will be implemented have yet to be determined, and will keep BOARS busy for the next few months. The program is expected to be in place in 2019 for entering city college students.

In response to a question from the floor, Chair Bohn stated that recent data indicates that existing transfer students are doing well for the most part. Concerns about grade inflation at the community college level will be addressed by the Board of Admissions, Enrollment, and Relations with Schools (BOARS), which is charged with setting admissions standards.

The faculty salary plan is still under discussion at the Office of the President. The aim of the Academic Senate is to address the 8.4% gap between UC faculty salaries and those at our Comparison 8 institutions. Salary increases over the past three years have been based on a pool of 3%. The current plan is to continue with the 3% pool, while at the same time giving on-scale faculty an extra 3% across the board. Faculty with off-scale salaries would receive less. Over three years, this would bridge the gap. The Executive Vice Chancellors have proposed alternatives, though the date for bridging the gap is unclear.

The Retiree Health Working Group is meeting to examine the retiree health benefits program and will make recommendations to protect the program’s sustainability. The Office of the President proposed changes in retirement health benefits for faculty and staff to reduce costs and liabilities for retiree health. The proposal was scheduled for discussion by the UC Regent’s last July, but was pulled following strong objections from the Academic Senate. Any changes for 2018 were deferred, and the Working Group was convened in order to make recommendations for 2019.

The second meeting of the Childcare Taskforce was held recently. In the short-term, the Taskforce would like to find space to expand childcare offerings. The long-term goal is to achieve permanent expansion that is closer to campus. The Taskforce will continue to explore options and formulate a plan for back-up care.

Proposal to Revise Senate Regulation 240: Honors at Graduation

Chair Bohn presented the proposed changes to Regulation 240, which were proposed by Jeff Stopple, Dean of Undergraduate Education, and approved by the Undergraduate Council (UgC). The proposed change will reduce the minimum number of units required for eligibility for Honors at Graduation from 76 to 60. The aim of this modification is to bring the eligibility minimum in line with the total number of upper-division units required for graduation. The proposal alleges that transfer students are disadvantaged by the current minimum. In response
to a question from the floor, UGC Chair David Paul, explained that data provided by the Registrar’s Office confirms this effect on transfer students.

Motion: To approve the proposed modification of Senate Regulation 240.

The motion was seconded and approved with 18 in favor, 0 against, and 4 abstentions.