Committee on Academic Planning and Budget (APB) Report – Warren Gold, MD

W. Gold delivered a brief report on the UC Retirement Plan to the Council. He noted that following a lengthy review of retirement benefits of UC health sciences faculty, a task force of the systemwide Academic Senate has issued a draft report of findings and recommendations to senior management. This details two options:

1. Maintain the current Defined Benefit Plan for covered compensation and add a Defined Contribution Plan on all additional salary above the covered compensation.
2. Make no changes to the current plan at this time.

Further details of both options are available at http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/underreview/defined_contributionplan.pdf.

Comments on the proposed plan have been requested from each UC division no later than February 14, 2004.

Clinical Research at UCSF

Executive Vice-Chancellor R. Kelly discussed with the Council current clinical research initiatives at UCSF and future initiatives which will facilitate clinical research.

EVC Kelly noted that until now, clinical research at UCSF has been conducted without an embracing sense of cohesion and that financial support for “dry” clinical research has been limited when compared to the potential revenue of such research. He expressed his enthusiasm for increased support for clinical research and outlined the recent work of his office in investigating how best this support can be provided. He noted that a priority for his office has been the consideration of the synchronization of
information technology systems and databases used by clinical researchers at UCSF which currently number in the several hundreds. Many of these systems and databases are unable to communicate with one another and are not always easily accessible except by those groups by which they are created. EVC Kelly’s office is currently working with IBM to establish standardized patient data records and will begin testing of a pilot system at the end of February, 2004. It is hoped that this initiative will lead to standardization of further databases and facilitate access to their content by clinical researchers.

Following from EVC Kelly’s comments, Council members expressed their support for clinical research and emphasized the importance of supporting clinical research as a mechanism for improving the recruitment and retention of outstanding clinical faculty. Members noted that initiatives to support clinical researchers will elevate the importance of clinical research at UCSF and strengthen UCSF’s status as a world-class research institution.

The Council agreed to draft a letter to Academic Senate Chair Leonard Zegans, requesting that the Senate recommend to campus leadership that increased resources be directed to clinical research and that a mission statement confirming a commitment to clinical research be developed and issued by campus leadership.

W. Smith agreed to draft this letter and will forward it to Council members for approval prior to forwarding it to Chair Zegans.

Dean’s Report – D. Kessler

Dean Kessler noted that the School of Medicine Leadership Retreat will take place from January 23 – January 25, 2004 and will focus on the hospital replacement planning process.

Committee on Curriculum and Educational Policy Report – S. Carlisle

S. Carlisle made three announcements:

- The UCSF Clinical Steering Committee reported to CCEP that fourth year clinical rotations will be divided into tiers. Each student will be required to complete a sixteen week tier one internship and a medicine sub-internship.

- CCEP discussed, and will continue to discuss at its next meeting, how to benchmark core clerkships in order to develop appropriate evaluation processes.

- Third and fourth year intercessions will be organized around mechanisms of disease.

Chair’s Report

Chair Roberson noted that the Academic Senate will be coordinating faculty focus groups in the New Year to facilitate discussion of hospital replacement planning. Each focus group will be attended by a small group of faculty and a consultant from Kurt Salmon Associates who will be working with the Medical Center during the hospital replacement planning process. She encouraged members of the faculty council to attend these groups.

*The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.*