Message from the Chair

Robert Newcomer, PhD

Dear Colleagues,

As the 2011-13 Chair of the UCSF Academic Senate, I look forward to working with all of you on the challenges we expect in the coming year. Some of the known challenges include campus budget adjustments due to reductions in State funding, additional expenses arising from the increasing costs of payments into the retirement system, and ongoing capital improvements such as seismic upgrades to campus buildings. Campus and UC Systemwide efforts to address these issues prompted seeking operational efficiencies and new sources of revenue. Constrained funding has also raised concerns about how to improve transparency, equity, flexibility, and adaptability for each campus.

My expectation is that the Academic Senate will continue to partner with UCSF leadership to find workable solutions for these issues. We will also collaborate to refine initiatives, such as the new pre-award grant administration structure, and enhancements to campus information technology, such as iMedRIS, as they are implemented. The Chancellor and her leadership team have demonstrated creative problem solving abilities. Their work highlights a willingness to innovate and a desire for timely change. To most effectively participate in the changes on campus and in the UC System, the Academic Senate will continue to provide timely engagement and efficient responses to requests for participation. I will endeavor to help us achieve both of these objectives.

For more information about the Senate, I encourage you to speak with colleagues who are active in the Academic Senate, visit our website http://senate.ucsf.edu, or send me a message at academic.senate@ucsf.edu.

Sincerely,

Robert Newcomer, PhD
Chair, UCSF Academic Senate, 2011-2013
Committee Minute: Academic Planning & Budget
Committed to the Financial Fitness of UCSF

The Committee on Academic Planning & Budget (APB) is charged with conferring with and advising the Chancellor and Administrative officers on policy and matters regarding budgets, resource allocation, academic planning, physical planning, and general assignment of teaching space. Additionally, APB is responsible for initiating studies with regard to budget and planning on proposed activities that would significantly impact the academic and research mission of the campus as a whole or any two of the Schools. APB serves as the primary liaison to the other committees of the Division, Chancellor-appointed committees and Faculty Council of the Schools on matters related to budget, resource allocation, academic planning, and physical planning.

This year, the Committee is chaired by Mary Gray and will continue to review and comment on proposed budget cuts, changes to the Development Office Funding Model, changes to the IT Funding Model, and the rebenching efforts.

For more information visit the Committee’s website, accessible from the Senate Home Page > Academic Planning & Budget.

Focus ON: Shilpa Patel

November will mark Shilpa’s eighth year with the UCSF Academic Senate. The work of the Senate evoked positive memories of her time working with the Associate Vice Chancellor of Information Technology at UC Davis (where she matriculated with a BS in Biological Sciences). After being admitted to the California State Bar in 2004, she continued her service to the Senate and found ways to incorporate her science and legal backgrounds into her daily life—making her career with UCSF that much more rewarding. Shilpa currently staffs Academic Freedom, Equal Opportunity, Library and Scholarly Communication, Privilege and Tenure, Rules & Jurisdiction, and the School of Dentistry Faculty Council.

Shilpa is a native of the Bay Area and a resident of San Francisco. When she is not embarking on new adventures in the City, Shilpa can be found teaching cooking classes, spending time with her family, playing Scrabble, and contemplating the next stamp in her passport. She can be reached at shilpa.patel@ucsf.edu

The Incoming Class
The Academic Senate Welcomes Incoming Chairs to the 2011-2012 Academic Year

Abbey Alkon
Educational Policy
Mohana Amirtharajah
Academic Freedom
Linda Chafetz
Privilege and Tenure
Jyu-Lin Chen
Nursing Faculty Council
Patrick Finley
Rules and Jurisdiction
Paul Garcia
Academic Personnel

Mary Gray
Academic Planning and Budget
Stefan Habelitz
Dentistry Faculty Council
Roland Henry
Committee on Committees
Anthony Hunt
Courses of Instruction
Grayson Marshall
Faculty Welfare
Maxwell Meng
Clinical Affairs

Judith Moskowitz
Research
Bob Nissenson
Medicine Faculty Council
Norman Oppenheim
Pharmacy Faculty Council
Eliseo Perez-Stable
Equal Opportunity
Robert Raffai
Graduate Council

THE SENATE PAGE is published quarterly by the UCSF Academic Senate to inform faculty about the activities of the Senate. Your comments are welcome to shilpa.patel@ucsf.edu. Special thanks to Wilson Hardcastle for lectureship poster design.