

Shared Governance

What is it? Why is it important?

Richard P. Tucker

Chair, Davis Division of the Academic Senate

Professor, Cell Biology and Human Anatomy

Email: aschair@ucdavis.edu

Shared Governance is Important in the UC System

The Academic Senate:

- Determines the conditions for admissions and degrees
- Supervises all courses
- Approves the structure and content of all curricula

- Advises the Administration on faculty hiring, merits and promotions
- Advises the Administration on the budget
- Advises the Administration on any issue regarding the conduct and welfare of the University

Shared Governance is Important in the UC System

The Academic Senate operates at many levels:

- Schools and colleges elect their own Faculty Executive Committee, which is responsible for Shared Governance at a local level
- The Davis Division Academic Senate is responsible for campus-wide Shared Governance
- The UC Systemwide Academic Senate is responsible for systemwide Shared Governance

Davis Division Academic Senate Standing Committees

Academic Freedom & Responsibility
Admissions & Enrollment
Affirmative Action & Diversity
Committee on Committees
Courses of Instruction
Distinguished Teaching Awards
Elections Rules & Jurisdiction
Emeriti
Faculty Privilege/Academic Personnel
Advisers
Faculty Research Lecturer
Faculty Welfare
Grade Changes
Information Technology
International Education
Joint Personnel
Library
Research
Undergrad. Scholarships, Honors
& Prizes

Academic Personnel
Appellate Subcommittee
Oversight Subcommittee

Graduate Council
Academic Planning & Dev.
Administrative
Bylaws
Courses
Educational Policy
Grad. Student Support
Program Review
Grad Student & Post Doc
Welfare
Program Review Closure

Planning & Budget
Instructional Space

Privilege & Tenure
Investigative
Hearings

Undergraduate Council
General Education
Preparatory Education
Special Academic Prog.
Undergrad Instruction &
Prog. Review

Some recent issues and initiatives

Systemwide Academic Senate:

- Developing best practices and creative solutions for extending faculty diversity through hiring and retention
- Examining the current and future use of standardized testing for UC admission
- Studying the current best practices for student evaluations of teaching

Some recent issues and initiatives

UC Davis Academic Senate:

- Five-year assessment of Step Plus Merit and Promotion system
- Step Plus Workgroup to help refine and clarify guidelines
- Developing new criteria for admissions and enrollment
- Adapting to Campus Closure during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Authorizing broad use of virtual instruction
 - Allowing flexibilities in P/NP grading, drop deadlines, etc.
 - Working with the administration to make classrooms and research labs as safe as possible
 - Advising the administration as it deals with the COVID-19 financial crisis

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

Respond to the Annual Call distributed by email in December

- Appointments and re-appointments are conducted annually
- Many more volunteer than can be placed, so apply again next year!

Get involved in Senate Service at the college or school level, and explore other forms of service at the departmental and graduate group level

Service is rewarded during the merit and promotion process:

The merit and promotion “Stool” really does have three legs at UC Davis!

QUESTIONS?

Richard P. Tucker, Davis Division Chair
aschair@ucdavis.edu

Edwin Arevalo, Executive Director
emarevalo@ucdavis.edu

<https://academicsenate.ucdavis.edu/about>