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2 **ACADEMIC SENATE**

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4 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

5 Meeting of March 22, 2017

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7 HSC, Broad CIRM Center 1st floor Seminar Room

8 1425 San Pablo St., Los Angeles, CA 90033

9 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

10
11 **Present:** Y. Bar-Cohen, R. Bostic, J. Cain, P. Cannon, J. Chisum, M. Eshaghian, P. Fiss, B. Girandola,
12 A. Goldkorn, L. Hoffman, E. Horowitz, R. Jubran, J. Kagan, M. Lee, R. Lonergan, J. McLaughlin
13 Gray, S. Palmer, J. Parr, G. J. Peters, M. Polikoff (alternate for M. Pensavalle), K. Rodgers, P.
14 Rosenbloom, D. Ruddell, A. Uyeshiro, R. Watanabe, G. Zada

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16 **Absent:** M. Apostolos, M. Aranda, N. Benbassat, M. Burgos, N.C. Burle, S. Curran, R. Davila, G. Giuliano,
17 W. Kast, A. Ouellette, D. Pecchenino, R. K. Rasmussen, K. Servis, S. Shroyer, R. Smith, J. Steele, N.
18 Stoubis, T. Tambascia, T. Tucker, Z. Unno, A. Wilcox, D. Williams

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20 **Guests:** G. Clark, M. Levine, M. Quick, C. Resnik, L. Saxon

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23 **AGENDA**

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25 Paula Cannon, Academic Senate President, called the meeting to order at 2:15 pm and introduced
26 the guests of the Senate.

27
28 **Approval of February Senate meetings and February 8 Additional Senate meeting draft minutes**

29 Mike Lee, Secretary General, presented February draft minutes for discussion and approval.

30
31 *Genevieve Giuliano moved to approve; Jeff Chisum seconded; 24 in favor; 0 opposed; 1*
32 *abstentions.*

33
34 **Update from the Nominating Committee**

35 Paul Rosenbloom, Chair, Nominating Committee and Academic Vice President, provided an
36 update from the Nominating Committee.

37
38 Committee has met in December and February. Currently have 2-3 candidates for Academic VP
39 nominations. Once have at least two committed, will focus on Administrative VP and then At
40 Large members. The nominees will be introduced at the April Senate meeting.

41
42 **Presentation from the Task Force on Innovation**

43 Kathy Rodgers, Chair, Task Force on Innovation, presented an update from their committee.

44
45 Charge for the task force was to provide insights into the culture of innovation at USC and
46 recommendations to improve. Initial goal was to provide insights into faculty engagement with
47 the USC Stevens Center for Innovation (USC Stevens). The Senate task force felt that an event
48 involving USC Stevens should be a catalyst for innovation.

49
50 Four major areas were identified: focus on short term gains versus long term impact, value place
51 on faculty as customers of the US Stevens, insufficient emphasis on marketing go intellectual
52 property, and balancing leadership and management.

53
54 Process used was identification of barriers to innovation and maximal societal impact,
55 prioritization of these barriers, collection of insights from areas to address, and identification of
56 common issues.

57
58 Method used to gather information beyond individuals on the senate task force included meetings
59 with USC Stevens by individual members of the task force, development of a survey, an attempt to
60 distribute survey, in person interviews with persons identified as having concerns, and gathering
61 of anecdote from the committee and persons within the committee network.

62
63 Task force has written an initial draft report with recommendations.

64
65 Final steps include meeting with Vice President Hall and Director Dyer to gain their insights on the
66 draft report, provide updated draft of the report to the Academic Senate Executive Board, discuss
67 with the task force any final edits to the report/recommendations, and provide the completed
68 report to the Academic Senate.

69
70 **Report from the Sustainability Committee**

71 Darren Ruddell, Chair, Task Force of Sustainability Committee, presented the committee's report
72 and proposal.

73
74 USC adopted Sustainability 2020 Plan in 2015. However, given the magnitude, urgency, and
75 multifaceted nature of the sustainability challenge, these efforts need to be embedded in a
76 broader vision and longer-term strategy. Proposed strategy – USC Sustainability 2030 - should
77 position the University as a leader in research and education and it would turn the campus into a
78 beacon of sustainable operations and facilities—since we are one of the largest private employers
79 in a region and a city that have made sustainability a top priority.

80
81 The proposal offer these initial goals with the aim of opening a conversation with the
82 understanding that more extensive discussion needs to occur before the University commits to
83 them.

- 84 • Education & Research: international leader in sustainability
- 85 • Community Engagement: develop and lead strategic partnerships to promote sustainability
- 86 • Energy Conservation: achieve carbon neutrality
- 87 • Transportation: 50% reduction in carbon footprint
- 88 • Procurement: pursue sustainable supply chain operations
- 89 • Waste: achieve 90% waste diversion
- 90 • Water: reduce potable water use by 50%

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92 The proposal also identifies the need for a Strategy Leadership Council who will guide the strategy
93 to implementation.

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95 *Jeremy Kagan moved to endorse the report. Suzanne Palmer seconded. For 20, against 0, abstain 1.*

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For more information

- USC Sustainability Strategy 2030 ([endorsed report](#))
- Proposal for a USC Sustainability Strategy 2030 ([presentation](#))

Presentation from the Faculty Environment and Employment Committee

Ashley Uyeshiro Simon, Co-Chair, Faculty Environment and Employment Committee, presented an update from their committee.

The committee’s charges for this year are Childcare and Campus Safety.

Child Care

As a background, the previous childcare provider for both HSC and UPC gave notice to that they end service end of last calendar year. USC was able to get two vendors to service UPC and HSC with no gap of coverage. Committee collaborated with the Provost office to look at the best practices for the childcare to avoid problems going forward, including how the relationship should function among USC, the provider, and parents.

Senate committee have looked at the childcare governance structure and came up with the following recommendations

- Primary childcare administrator - full time oversight of the childcare vendors, addressing parents’ concerns and making sure items are being followed up on
- Advisory committees consisting of parents of each age - meet regularly with the primary child care administrator and childcare directors
- Reporting/communicating structure - to have a written policy and orient parents to that policy and communicate any issues

Next steps include rewriting recommendations and sending the recommendations informally to the Provost.

Campus Safety

There was not enough time for the campus safety update. This update will be provided at a later meeting.

Proposed Changes to the Faculty Handbook, First Read

Edwin McCann and Jessica Parr, Co-Chairs, Faculty Handbook Committee, presented the first reading of the proposed changes to the faculty handbook.

Key changes include more inclusiveness of all faculty (focus on RTPC and, in particular, part-timers), outside education work (includes examples of what is allowed), and language to align with Export Controls recommendations.

Recommendations from the full Senate included adding examples of what is disapproved for outside education work, explicitly stating “all faculty, including full and part-time.” Generally, not approved areas of outside education work are areas where it hurts USC – e.g. hurts its reputation or competes with USC.

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For more information

- [Summary of proposed changes to the handbook](#)
- [Faculty handbook 2017 \(redlined\)](#)

Dialogue with USC's Provost, Michael Quick

Michael Quick, USC Provost, provided updates on undergraduate admissions, potential impact of discussions in Washington, 5-year strategic plan and other updates.

Undergraduates – Class of 2021

On March 23, we will send 48k rejection letters to the undergraduate. About 8k acceptance letters. Hope to bring in 3k. 56k applications.

Average test scores were up 20 points. Average applicant score: 1380 average (93%). 54% female. 46% male. First generation college goers 15-20%. We are relatively flat on African American pool. Top markets for applicants – 40% California. 14% are international students. We are not seeing a drop of applicants from overseas (both undergraduate and graduate). PhD student apps are up 4% and masters 5% from international. Curious to see what impacts the US administration changes has an impact to that. USC is reaching out to those applicants. Biggest question is how many can we convert.

Recent Attack in London

USC has 135 students studying in London. 97 are confirmed safe. USC reaches out because of the shooting in London.

From Washington DC

Initial skinny budget from the Trump administration does not have good news for higher education. 20% reduction in NIH budget. There is strong bipartisan support for biomedical research. There is language about “thinking about costs related to research” may impact the overhead rate. Nothing in the budget regarding NSF. Pell Grants seem to be the same, but may move Pell Grant surplus to defense.

STEM OPT (optional practical training) is typically one year. Obama administration added 24 months for STEM field to allow for a total of 3 years. Likely will move back to 1 year.

Biggest problem is H1-B Visas. What is the salary floor you need to pay to get a H1-B Visa? Now its \$62K a year. Bill being sent in by republican is \$100K. Universities are exempted for the number of visas. Now we are looking at can we get an exemption for the \$100k.

USC, along with 30 other top universities and colleges, is signing an amicus brief with the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. USC was also a signatory on Association of American Universities sent a letter to President Trump on March 20, 2017.

For more information on the communications and other updates go to:

<https://www.provost.usc.edu/information-on-the-immigration-and-travel-executive-order/>

Strategic Plan

190 Board of Trustees has asked us to create a new strategic plan for the University. Takes input from
191 the Senate, President's Faculty Address to work on the strategic plan. This plan will be a little
192 deeper than just a vision. Six strategic priorities:

193

- 194 1. Ensuring academic excellence
- 195 2. Convergence – bringing difference schools and discipline to bear on problems
- 196 3. Megacities – how to we build interinstitutional partnership, prepare students to think
197 globally in a century of mega cities.
- 198 4. Lifespan health and wellness
- 199 5. Expanding access and inclusion
- 200 6. Increasing the value of a USC degree

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202 Goal is to send to the Trustees in 2 months. This will be the guiding document for the University
203 for the next 5 years.

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205 **Announcements**

206 Paula Cannon, Academic Senate President

207 (a) There will be an Executive Board election starting in April ([see election schedule](#))

208 (b) The 'End of the Year' dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 10

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210 **New Business**

211 None stated

212

213 **Adjournment**

214 Meeting was adjourned at 3:59pm

215

216 Respectfully submitted,

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218

219

220 Mike S. Lee

221 Secretary General of the Academic Senate