



Steven W. Cheung
Chair, Assembly of the
Academic Senate
Faculty Representative,
UC Board of Regents

Academic Senate

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December 18, 2024

Academic Senate Division Chairs
Academic Senate Executive Directors

Re: Academic Senate Divisional Votes on UCSF Memorials

Dear Division Chairs,

On December 18, 2024, the systemwide Academic Senate office received the UCSF-certified votes on two memorials related to Senate membership. I am writing to confirm that the Senate will proceed in accordance with the following procedures outlined in [Senate Bylaw 90](#).

Relevant Provisions of Bylaw 90

Bylaw 90.D.1:

Memorials to the Regents that have been approved by a Division shall be submitted within thirty calendar days to the Chair of the Assembly and the Chairs of all other Divisions.

The Memorial shall be accompanied by the count of votes, a brief account of its history, an explanation of its provisions, and a succinct statement of the arguments for and against it specified in Article B of this Bylaw.

Bylaw 90.D.2:

Each Division shall have ninety calendar days from receipt of the Memorial to vote upon it. The time required to submit the proposal to a mail ballot, if such balloting is required, shall be included within ninety days.

Bylaw 90.D.3:

Upon receipt of the Memorial the Chair of the Division shall promptly submit it to a vote of the Division. The Division may vote to approve, to disapprove, or to decline to act, but may not amend the proposal as submitted. The vote may proceed according to any method authorized by the Bylaws of the Division, including town meetings, representative assembly, or mail ballot. Except as may otherwise be provided in the Divisional Bylaws, the choice of the method of voting shall be determined by the Chair of the Division, in the light of the circumstances, and of advice from any duly constituted advisory bodies the Chair may consult. In no

event shall the Chair submit the Memorial at a time that is too late for the Division to comply with the ninety-day limitation set forth in paragraph 2 of this Article.

Additional provisions under Bylaw 90.D.4-7 include:

- The Chair of the Division shall within seven calendar days forward the results of the Divisional vote to the Chair of the Assembly and the Chairs of all other Divisions.
- As soon as the 90-day period specified in 90.D.2 has ended—or once all Divisions have reported their results, whichever comes first—the Chair of the Assembly shall notify all Divisions of the outcomes. If at least three Divisions, representing at least 35% of the Academic Senate membership, approve the memorial, the proposal will proceed to a systemwide vote in accordance with Article E of this Bylaw.
- A Division may reconsider its vote within the 90-day period specified in 90.D.2.
- If the requirements in 90.D.5 are not met within the 90-day period, the memorial is deemed disapproved, and no further action will be taken.

Clarifications on “Decline to Act”: The option to “decline to act” in Bylaw 90.D.3 is distinct from abstention. Systemwide Senate leadership recommends that a “decline to act” decision not be made unilaterally by the division chair. We also recommend offering three voting options: Approve, Disapprove, and Decline to Act. The last option reflects a vote cast without judgment on the merits of the memorial itself.

Historical Reference: For guidance, in 2019, Senate divisions voted on a memorial (proposed by UCSF) regarding fossil fuel divestment. Divisions at that time elected to vote under Bylaw 90.D.3 in the following manner:

UCB: Divisional Council
UCD: Representative Assembly
UCI: Divisional Assembly
UCLA: Legislative Assembly
UCM: Full Divisional Vote
UCR: Full Divisional Vote
UCSD: Divisional Assembly
UCSB: Faculty Legislature
UCSC: Full Divisional Vote

The divisional votes should close and be reported no later than Tuesday, March 18, 2025. We look forward to receiving the results of your certified divisional votes no later than Tuesday, March 18, 2025. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven W. Cheung'.

Steven W. Cheung
Chair, Academic Council

Cc: Senate Executive Director Lin