Chair Ho called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and asked if there were any members of the press present. She introduced Patty Morales, Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management and Bryan Jue, Senior Director of Outreach and Communications, Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

1. Undergraduate Admissions & Enrollment Management

AVC Morales and Director Jue gave an overview of the Fall 2022 admissions cycle.

With regard to freshman admission targets, AVC Morales reported that they expect excellent outcomes for both nonresident students and, with the robust waitlist, California resident students. She noted that the California resident yield rate, at 33%, is very high within the UC system. Admissions is pleased with positive SIR (Statement of Intent to Register) outcomes in line with campus goals for inclusive excellence including low-income, first-generation, African American, and Chicano/Latino students; additionally, UCI ranked number one in Native American SIRs in the system. AVC Morales noted that applicant GPAs were way up this cycle, consistent with every UC campus and other U.S. institutions since most school districts have been allowing Pass/Not Pass grading during the pandemic.

Director Jue reported that Admissions held many in-person, highly attended outreach events this year. These included the return of Celebrate UCI, “stay-over” events for admitted African American and Latinx students, and other events for Native American and API students. Yield from these events was very high, with more than 60% of students who attended any event submitting a positive SIR; of the ~2,500 admitted students who attended Celebrate UCI, 77% submitted positive SIRs. Admissions also hosted several transfer student events in May. The transfer SIR deadline was June 1, and the campus had received ~2,800 positive transfer SIRs as of that date.

A member asked about application volume, referring to news reports about a decline in college applications, and whether this was the trend at UCI. AVC Morales responded that UCI saw no decline in application volume, other than a slight drop in transfer applications. Applications from underrepresented populations actually increased, and a lower number of admits is more reflective of yield expectations than a decline in applications.

Another member asked whether efforts to increase yield leads to admission of less-qualified students. AVC Morales explained that Admissions uses Senate-approved criteria for comprehensive review of applications, and that yield modeling is not used in the review process. In response to additional questions about student quality and diversity, she further explained that with comprehensive review, reviewers do not isolate any single criterion as the top requirement for admission. While GPA and A-G and honors courses are important, for example, they do not use standardized tests for admission consideration and do not make admission decisions based on a matrix of academic criteria; everything is considered holistically and in context. AVC Morales also clarified that our inclusive excellence goals and enrollment objectives are in alignment with UCI’s...
Strategic Plan and the California Master Plan for Higher Education, and do not impact the quality of our admitted students.

Finally, a member asked how the campus is planning for affirmative action cases pending before the Supreme Court and the impact this might have on admissions. AVC Morales responded that we already follow California Proposition 209 and reviewers do not see race, ethnicity, or gender directly in the files; we therefore do not anticipate operational challenges as a result. Director Jue added that they expect the Office of the President will provide guidance as needed.

AVC Morales let members know that, due to ongoing waitlist movement, final admissions data should be available publicly at the end of June.

2. Minutes from May 5, 2022 Divisional Senate Assembly Meeting
Chair Ho called for any discussion of the minutes, for a motion to approve and a second. She noted that instructions for voting online would be sent via email following the meeting.

Following the meeting, members voted 27-0-0 to approve the minutes from May 5.

3. Pre-proposal to Establish the School of Population & Public Health
The Senate has reviewed a pre-proposal to establish the School of Population and Public Health in the College of Health Sciences. Chair Ho noted that the school revised the proposal based on feedback from six Senate councils and Cabinet this past fall. Over the last couple of months, all six councils reviewed the revisions, and Cabinet endorsed the pre-proposal at its meeting on May 17. She reported that Public Health faculty supported the pre-proposal by a vote of 37-1-1, representing the support of 95% of the faculty.

Chair Ho noted that Public Health Faculty Chair Rufus Edwards and Vice Chair Michael Hoyt were in attendance and available to answer any questions members had about the proposal. Director and Founding Dean Bernadette Boden-Albala was also present for any questions.

One member asked whether the faculty member who voted in opposition expressed their reasons for doing so. Faculty Chair Edwards responded that no comment was given with the negative vote, but other faculty comments were included in the proposal materials that were provided for members to review.

Chair Ho called for a motion and a second to approve the pre-proposal, and noted that instructions for voting online would be sent via email following the meeting.

Following the meeting, members voted 26-1-0 to approve the pre-proposal to establish the School of Population & Public Health.

4. Proposed Revisions to Irvine Bylaw 100: Graduate Council
Graduate Council proposed revisions to Bylaw 100 to include periodic review of all graduate programs in its charge, in accordance with accreditation requirements for assessing learning outcomes. The Council considered bylaws of other UC Graduate Councils in proposing these changes.
Chair Ho reported that CRJ approved the proposed changes on May 6, and Cabinet approved them at its meeting on May 17. She called for a motion and a second to approve the proposed revisions, and noted that instructions for voting online would be sent via email following the meeting.

Following the meeting, members voted 24-0-3 to approve the proposed revisions to Irvine Bylaw 100.

5. Proposed Amendment to Irvine Regulation A345.D
The Subcommittee on Policy and Assessment proposed an amendment to Irvine Regulation A345.D. Course Repetition. Chair Ho explained that under the current regulation, students who take honors or majors-only courses and do not pass them are required to take the honors or majors-only versions to replace them. This can present problems for students who are no longer part of the campuswide honors program or who have changed majors. The amendment would allow students to replace honors and majors-only courses with non-honors and non-majors courses if necessary.

Chair Ho reported that CEP unanimously approved the amendment at its meeting on May 5, CRJ approved it on May 13, and Cabinet approved it at its meeting on May 17. She called for a motion and a second to approve the proposed amendment. Chair Ho further noted that per consultation with the Registrar, this change should be effective Fall 2022, rather than immediately. She therefore called for a motion and a second to approve an alternate implementation date should the amendment be approved. She noted that instructions for voting online would be sent following the meeting.

Following the meeting, members voted 25-0-2 to approve the proposed amendment to Irvine Regulation A345.D, and 26-0-2 to approve an implementation date of Fall 2022.

6. Approval of Final Assembly Minutes
In order to facilitate approval of minutes from the final DSA meeting each year, Senate leadership proposed an alternative process developed in consultation with the Parliamentarian.

Chair Ho explained that rather than waiting to approve the minutes at the first Assembly meeting the following year, when there have been membership changes, the proposal would delegate approval of the final meeting’s minutes to the Senate Cabinet. She explained the process, noting that we would share draft minutes with Assembly members for any comments or corrections, then draft minutes reflecting any necessary changes would be presented to the Cabinet. The Cabinet would vote to approve the minutes at its final meeting of the year later in June. Chair Ho reminded members that Cabinet members are also attending and voting members of Divisional Assembly. She noted that if approved, this procedure would be effective immediately and until further notice, regardless of any future changes to DSA meeting modality.
One member asked whom members would notify if they had questions or concerns about the draft minutes. Chair Ho clarified that the contact would be the Assembly analyst, currently the Associate Director of the Academic Senate.

Chair Ho asked for a motion and a second to approve the alternative process, and noted that instructions for voting online would be sent via email following the meeting.

Following the meeting, members voted 30-0-0 to approve the alternative process for approval of the final Assembly meeting minutes.

7. In Memoriam
Chair Ho announced that the faculty of the University of California Academic Senate produce In Memoriam to honor its deceased colleagues. She encouraged members to read the colleagues’ full memorials that were included in the meeting materials. She also noted that memorial resolutions received by the division are sent to the systemwide Senate and published online.

8. Chair’s Announcements
Chair Ho thanked all who voted on the Memorial to the Regents on Fossil Fuel Combustion. She reported that the division voted 335-67 in favor of the Memorial and that the division’s votes would be submitted to the systemwide Senate. She noted that per systemwide Senate bylaws, approval of a Memorial requires a majority of valid ballots cast across all divisions. If a majority of the validly cast ballots from all divisions approve the Memorial, it shall be sent by the Chair of the UC Assembly to President Drake for submission to the UC Regents.

Chair Ho reminded members to participate in the 2021-22 UC Academic Senate Survey of Faculty Life before June 25, 2022, noting that feedback will affect future UC policies and faculty support. Chair Elect Striedter added that the survey asks about online instruction during the pandemic, and another member noted that responses are seriously considered systemwide and can make a difference in campus funding.

Chair Ho also reminded members about two ongoing UCI Scholars at Risk fundraising efforts: UCI Ukraine Emergency Response Fund and UCI Cameroon Scholar Emergency Rescue Fund.

Finally, Chair Ho thanked members for their attendance and engagement in Assembly meetings and discussions this year.

Chair Ho adjourned the meeting at 4:24 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Gina Anzivino, Associate Director
Attested by: Georg Striedter, Chair Elect-Secretary