



April 2, 2019

Renee Chow	Professor and Chair, Department of Architecture, CED (co-chair)
Kathleen Donegan	Associate Professor of English & Associate Dean of Arts and Humanities, L&S (co-chair)
James Analytis	Assistant Professor of Physics
Anne Baranger	Director of Undergraduate Chemistry, Adjunct Professor of Chemistry & Lecturer SOE
Brandi Catanese	Associate Professor, Theater, Dance and Performance Studies
Serena Chen	Berkeley Collegium Faculty Director & Professor of Psychology
Naniette Coleman	PhD candidate, Sociology
Jason Corburn	Professor of City & Regional Planning
Abby Dernburg	Member, UGC & Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology
Beth Dupuis	Associate University Librarian for Educational Initiatives and User Services
Inez Fung	Member, L&S Executive Committee & Professor of Earth and Planetary Science
Glynda Hull	Chair, Committee on Teaching & Professor of Education
Lynn Huntsinger	Assistant Dean for Instruction and Student Affairs, CNR & Professor, Environmental Science, Policy and Management
Lisa Pruitt	Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Leigh Raiford	Associate Professor and Chair of African American Studies
Bree Rosenblum	Faculty Director, Berkeley Connect & Associate Professor, Environmental Science, Policy and Management
Kim Shelton	Member, L&S Executive Committee & Associate Professor of Classics

Re: Invitation to serve on the Undergraduate Experience Curriculum Work Group

Dear Colleagues,

The recent Strategic Planning effort resulted in a [report](#) identifying over 25 discrete ideas for how the undergraduate experience can be transformed in the next decade. In particular, the strategic plan highlights undergraduate Discovery Experiences in which “*opportunities to discover through original research and creative or service projects will be available to every student*”. Now that this report has been released, work on enhancing the undergraduate student experience in this framework can accelerate.

The Chancellor and Provost created the Undergraduate Experience Executive Steering Committee (UEESC) to guide this campus-wide effort, naming us as co-chairs. The Undergraduate Experience Curriculum Work Group, which consists of faculty from each College and the Senate, will support the work of the UEESC. It is our pleasure to invite you to serve as a member of the Undergraduate Experience Curriculum Work Group.

Under the leadership of the group’s co-chairs, Kathleen Donegan (Associate Professor of English & Associate Dean of Arts and Humanities) and Renee Chow (Professor and Chair, Department of Architecture, CED), the Curriculum Work Group will focus primarily on Discovery. Discovery is an intentionally broad term referencing a wide range of immersive learning that will prepare students for academic and professional success. Such learning spans four primary forms of undergraduate engagement: 1) Community Engagement and Field Work, 2) Research, 3) Creative Endeavors, and 4) Entrepreneurial Efforts. A student’s arc of Discovery should challenge students to question, design, implement, and iterate toward a thoughtful and creative culminating Discovery Experience. The possibilities for Discovery Experiences are as varied as our departments and campus units that create them and our students’ capacity for imagining them.

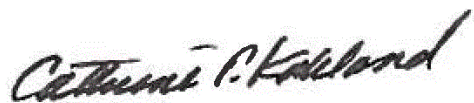
We ask that the Curriculum Work Group consult broadly among faculty and students (graduate students as well as undergraduates) as it addresses the following:

- How do we deepen and more specifically define the characteristics of the “Arc of Discovery” in an undergraduate student experience?
- What framework would best support incorporating Discovery Experiences into the curriculum? Should Discovery Experiences be the culminating (“capstone”) for each major?
- How do we provide space within the majors for alternatives - either for alternate forms of experiences or for students to define their own Discovery Experience?
- How can departments incorporate co-curricular and extra-curricular Discovery Experiences into that framework?
- What resources will departments need to offer the opportunities of a Discovery Experience to all undergraduates in the department’s major(s)?
- What next steps should the campus take to implement these recommendations?

This six-month appointment will commence in Spring 2019 and conclude with a report presented to the Undergraduate Experience Executive Steering Committee by September 30, 2019. The Curriculum Work Group will have staff support from Leslie Harlson.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of this important task. Please contact Leslie Harlson, [lharlson@berkeley.edu](mailto:lharlson@berkeley.edu) to confirm your ability to serve or if you have any questions regarding the committee.

Best regards,



Catherine P. Koshland  
Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education



Stephen C. Sutton  
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Co-chairs, Undergraduate Experience Executive Steering Committee