

**Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation  
(CAPRA)**

**Minutes of Meeting  
February 11, 2015**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 9:00 am on February 11, 2015 in Room 324 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Anne Kelley presiding.

Attendees: Anne Kelley, Josh Viers, Jan Wallander, Mukesh Singhal, and Daisy Figueroa.

Absent: Cristián Ricci, Marilyn Fogel, and Danielle Bermudez.

I. Chair's Report

Chair Kelley updated the CAPRA members on the February 3 UCPB meeting. Vice Chancellor for Planning & Budget Dan Feitelberg and Provost/EVC Peterson attended, with VC Feitelberg delivering a presentation on UC Merced's Project 2020. Chair Kelley reported that UCPB members were satisfied with the presentation and seemed positive about the plan for public/private partnerships. UCPB members were engaged in the conversation and were well versed in the issues. There are several details surrounding the amount of funding and space allocation that still need to be determined, and it is hoped that tomorrow's joint meeting of CAPRA and Division Council, which VC Feitelberg will attend, will provide clarity.

There are two issues surrounding Project 2020 that are concerning to many faculty: 1) faculty still do not know how much academic space will be built and whether there will be enough laboratory space to provide to the additional faculty the campus will need to hire in order to reach the goal of 10,000 students by 2020 and 2) every component of the new buildings, including planning, construction, parts of the financing structure, and maintenance and operation, will be handled by the consortium. It is unusual for a consortium to have control over building maintenance and operation. While this authority gives the consortium incentive to build excellent buildings, it is unclear how responsive they will be to faculty members in an emergency, such as equipment failures on weekends. Another concern is how to renovate current space when hiring faculty who have varying laboratory requirements.

A CAPRA member asked Chair Kelley whether other UCPB members have experience at their own campuses working with consortiums. Chair Kelley responded that other campuses have had this experience with the building of student housing, but not academic space. Another CAPRA member pointed out that some buildings use propriety software for energy management and this may prevent UCM from continuing to experiment on its buildings to maximize energy efficiency. Also, with regard to the payment structure for new buildings, the rate of return appears to be unknown to faculty, including the terms of the “mortgage”, and it is uncertain what would happen if the consortium splinters or declares bankruptcy. Chair Kelley confirmed that UC Merced would hold title to the buildings from the outset and the campus would make scheduled payments. It is not a lease. Chair Kelley also reported that VC Feitelberg provided a summary of how much assignable square footage of academic space per student and per faculty member the campus has compared to other research universities and community colleges. UC Merced ranks below all the comparison institutions. UCOP has set aside a small fraction of its operating budget to use for capital projects, but much of that funding will be used to rectify emergency situations such as seismic retrofitting, rather than new buildings.

II. Consent Calendar

**ACTION:** The January 14, 2015 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

- III. February 5 Joint Meeting of CAPRA, Division Council, Provost/EVC Peterson
- Chair Kelley summarized Provost/EVC’s statements from this meeting. The Provost/EVC plans to release some fraction of foundational FTEs, but cannot confirm how many lines until he is fully apprised of the campus budget. Nevertheless, CAPRA can proceed with submitting a call for FTE requests from the Schools. The Provost/EVC also stated that he will choose which strategic areas will be slated for receiving FTE lines, but CAPRA will have a consultative role.

CAPRA members then turned to the draft FTE process and criteria document drafted in fall 2014. Members acknowledged that the strategic hire requests and foundational hire requests will be asynchronous and as such, will be challenging for CAPRA to review. A method would have to be determined to address identical FTE proposals from a strategic and foundational area. After a brief

discussion, CAPRA members decided to delete the section of the FTE process and criteria document that refers to cluster hires.

**ACTION:** The revised FTE process and criteria document will be submitted to the Provost/EVC, with a request that he submit it to the Schools no later than the last week of February. CAPRA will set the deadline of April 15, 2015 for Schools to submit their FTE requests.

IV. UCM Bylaws Revision

Division Council asked all Senate standing committees to review their relevant sections of the UC Merced bylaws and suggest any changes. All proposed revisions will be subjected to a faculty vote this semester. Prior to this meeting, CAPRA members proposed revising duty number four listed in the current CAPRA section of the UC Merced bylaws. That duty refers to CAPRA initiating and coordinating studies or reviews of existing and proposed academic schools, colleges, and degree programs. CAPRA members suggested revising to “Reviews academic units and degree programs as they relate to academic planning, budget, and resource allocation, and reports thereon to the Chancellor or Chancellor’s designee and/or to the Divisional Council and Divisional Assembly as appropriate.”

**ACTION:** CAPRA analyst to submit the proposed revisions to the Senate Chair.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Attest:

Anne Kelley, CAPRA Chair

Minutes taken by: Simrin Takhar, Senate Analyst