

**DIVISIONAL COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**September 25, 2017**

Pursuant to call, the Divisional Council met at 10:00 a.m. on September 25, 2017 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Susan Amussen presiding.

Present: Kurt Schnier, Wei-Chun Chin, Teamrat Ghezzehei, Tom Hansford, Ignacio López-Calvo, Michael Dawson, Shawn Newsam, David Noelle, and Anne Zanzucchi. Sean Malloy participated by telephone.

**I. Chair's Report & Announcements**

**A. Meetings with Provost (9/11, 9/18, 9/25)**

The Chair and Vice Chair meet have been meeting weekly with the Provost. The most recent meetings have focused on drafting the charges for, and identifying the memberships of, the Senate-administration work groups addressing academic planning, school reorganization, and budget. Workgroups memberships balance size and Senate and administration representation. An email, describing these three initiatives, will be distributed to the campus community this afternoon.

**B. Chancellor's Extended Cabinet (9/20)**

The Chancellor has just returned from a Chancellor's retreat and the Regents September meeting. The legislature has asked the system to enroll an additional 1,500 students and to pay for this enrollment growth with funds from the Office of the President (OP). OP is considering various strategies to generate the necessary funds, including cuts to funding that supports existing students, including UC Merced students. Concerns about this approach are being communicated to OP. UCPATH, the new systemwide payroll and personnel management system, is being implemented on January 1. It appears it will not be possible to issue paychecks retroactively, necessitating changes to hiring and related planning. It will be important for PIs to be aware of this, and that processes be adopted to ensure students, including international students who must be re-hired annually, are not disadvantaged. Members proposed meeting with the UCPATH leadership to better understand the initiative and to share concerns.

**ACTION:** Invite Andy Boyd, the Executive Director of Business and Financial Strategic Initiatives, to present to Divisional Council on the UC PATH implementation, including on the issues of retroactive paychecks and communication planning.

**C. The new systemwide Provost, Michael Brown, is visiting campus Friday, October 6. Divisional Council and School Executive Committee Chairs have been invited to lunch with him. Members are encouraged to join the lunch.**

**II. Consent Calendar**

The agenda and minutes of the August 28, 2017 meeting were approved as presented.

**III. Consultation with the Director of Institutional Research & Decision Support**

Director Allen reported that IRDS has four analysts, including herself, and that the unit reports to the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Budget. To support decision making at UC Merced, IRDS is developing integrative data sets for institutional analytics and models to support enrollment planning. IRDS is also partnering with campus offices to support campus initiatives. It has developed and continues to advance

models to support integrative campus planning; the office's initial enrollment planning model now includes campus financial data and data on faculty and staff counts. The model is being transitioned to an IBM forecasting tool, with plans to integrate research revenue and space. A member requested a list of the data sets IRDS has available for distribution to Senate committees. A member also asked about the timeline for reporting student enrollment statistics. The Director responded that these statistics are based on fall and spring census dates at which a snap shot of enrollment is taken for reporting purposes. A member encouraged presentation of LGBTQ data on the campus website. The Director reported that the Office of the President is developing a dashboard with those data. A member complimented the IRDS website. Director Allen reported that IRDS is replacing some of the static data sets with interactive features to increase flexibility. The office wants to continue to grow as a service unit to the campus, and to advance collaboration on campus projects. The Director encouraged members with an interest in any models IRDS is developing to please reach out.

**ACTION:** Director Allen will provide a list of data sets to share with committees together with information on which IRDS analysts to contact about a particular data set.

#### IV. Campus Review Items

##### A. [Philosophy Major](#)

UGC Chair Zanzucchi summarized committee and administration comments on the [Proposal for a Philosophy B.A.](#) Committees and the Provost support the proposal. UGC found the program well designed, thoughtful, and sustainable. Before undertaking its vote, UGC discussed the program's structure with the program's faculty leads. A member raised a question about adequate faculty. Chair Zanzucchi responded that the Philosophy is confident there are faculty sufficient to deliver the program. Following discussion, members unianimously endorsed the proposal, with one abstention.

**ACTION:** Divisional Council's endorsement will be transmitted to the administration for its consideration.

##### B. [Draft UCM Policy on Assurance of Laboratory Safety Compliance](#)

CoR Chair Noelle summarized committee comments on the draft [UCM Policy on Assurance of Laboratory Safety Compliance](#). Committees generally found the policy well motivated, while also identifying a number of issues to be addressed before the policy can be endorsed. These include ensuring those with responsibility for compliance have the necessary authority and resources to track and promote compliance, clarifying critical definitions, and integrating into the document plans for consultation with relevant Senate committees. Members also discussed strategies for addressing non-compliance, including through the merit and promotion process.

**ACTION:** Divisional Council's response will be transmitted to the UC Merced Office of Campus Climate and Compliance by September 29.

#### V. FWAF Childcare Survey Results

FWAF Chair Malloy provided an overview of FWAF's memo summarizing the results and recommendations from FWAF's spring 2017 campus-wide survey on childcare needs. Chair Malloy shared an additional recommendation: to approach the County Office of Education about expanding existing programs and developing, as possible, partnerships among the campus, County, and schools to address childcare needs. Members unanimously endorsed transmitting FWAF's memo, with the additional recommendation, to the provost, VPF, and interim VCBAS. Members also recommended sharing the survey results and recommendations with Staff Assembly.

**Actions Requested:** FWAF's memo will be transmitted to the Provost, Vice Provost of the Faculty, and Interim Vice Chancellor of Business and Administrative Services and, separately, to Staff Assembly.

**VI. Informational: Update on new WSCUC requirement**

ALO Martin reported that WSCUC has revised its substantive change policies related to the approval of new programs. As of July 1, 2017, all new undergraduate graduate, and non-degree programs must undergo screening for substantive change prior to implementation. Additionally, any new program, including non-degree programs, for which 50% or more is delivered at a site other than the main campus may have to undergo WSCUC staff review for substantive change. OPRAAS staff will draft responses to WSCUC's screening form, which will be reviewed by the program's faculty lead before submission to WSCUC. These policies replaced WSCUC's prior policies under which the campus had general authority to implement new undergraduate programs without any review by WSCUC.

**VII. Committee Chairs' Reports**

- [Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC)  
The UGC Chair reported that the Philosophy major was the main focus of conversation at UGC's first meeting. UGC has also engaged in some initial dialogue about DACA. UGC is proposing revisions to its bylaws. The draft will soon be sent to CRE for its review prior to consideration by Divisional Council and the Division.
- [Graduate Council](#) (GC)  
The GC Chair reported that GC is addressing reports of delayed graduate student payments in SSHA and, separately, issues faced by graduate students funded entirely on fellowships. GC is also developing a policy for the review and approval of Extension certificate programs and will be reaching out to UGC, and CAPRA on this topic.
- [Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#) (FWAF)  
The FWAF Chair reported that FWAF has endorsed the charge to the Police Advisory Board. The UC Merced administration will be drafting a policy to address free speech and academic freedom with respect to external speakers. Following discussion with the Associate Chancellor Putney, the VPF, and D&E, FWAF will provide a memo to support this effort. FWAF is also developing a memo to the administration on the need for mental health resources for faculty and the lack of culturally competent practitioners. Finally, FWAF is drafting a memo for the Budget Work Group on the importance of developing a transparent policy for disbursing incidental funds and ensuring equity in how incidental funds are managed across schools.
- [Diversity and Equity](#) (D&E)  
The D&E Chair reported that D&E is drafting a memo to the Academic Planning Work Group to urge consideration of diversity in academic planning. D&E is also working with Director of Campus Climate on a statement of diversity for the campus. This semester D&E will hold discussion with FEAs from each school to learn from last year and improve FEA support for this year.
- [Rules and Elections](#) (CRE)  
The CRE Chair submitted a written report noting that the committee now has a full complement of members, and that the vice chair seat is still vacant. The committee's inaugural meeting will take place in October.
- [Committee on Research](#) (CoR)  
The CoR Chair reported the CoR held its first meeting last week. CoR will be offering comments on five-year review of SNRI. At the request of the VCORED, CoR is also reviewing and will offer comment on the campus' limited submissions policy.
- [Committees](#) (CoC)

The CoC Chair reported that, since the last DivCo meeting, CoC has approved a slate of appointees to Senate committees and other campus committees. This includes new members to GC, CoR, CRE, and UGC, a vice chair for UGC, undergraduate student representatives to CAPRA, UGC, and LASC, a graduate student representative to CAPRA, a Division representative to UCAF, and faculty representatives to the UCM Student Conduct Hearing Board and Information, Privacy and Security Committee (IPSC). CoC continues to work on additional appointments, including to the VPDGE's five-year review committee, the Police Advisory Board, the Teaching Evaluation Task Force, and a few outstanding committee membership needs.

- [Academic Personnel](#) (CAP)

The CAP Chair reported that the annual APO/CAP meeting with faculty will take place on October 9. CAP is otherwise conducting regular business.

- [Academic Planning & Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA)

The CAPRA Chair reported that the committee's most recent meeting focused exclusively on the MIST PDST application. At CAPRA's next meeting, Provost Peterson and Veronica Mendez will present the campus's activity based costing scoping report.

#### VIII. Informational Items

- On August 29, 2017, Academic Council transmitted to President Napolitano its [endorsement](#) of two statements by the University Committee on Academic Freedom (UCAF): 1) "On the Free Exchange of Information"; and 2) support for Assembly Concurrent Resolution 21.
- [Divisional Council Annual Report 2016-17](#)
- UC Merced's [final report](#) to UCOP on its Activity Based Costing Pilot conducted as part of the system's Budget Framework Initiative.

Attest: Susan Amussen, Senate Chair