

DIVISIONAL COUNCIL

March 4, 2019

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

KL 362

Zoom URL: <https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/2092287954>

Zoom Phone: 1 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 209 228 7954

Supporting Documents available on [Box](#)[Committee Bylaws](#)

Item

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|------|--|---------------|
| I. | Chair’s Report & Announcements – <i>Chair Schnier</i> | 5 Min |
| | A. Academic Council (2/27) | |
| | B. Academic Planning Work Group (2/25) | |
| | C. Meeting with EVC/Provost (2/25) | |
| II. | Consent Calendar | 5 Min |
| | A. The Agenda | |
| III. | Campus Review Items | 20 Min |

- A. [Proposed Revisions to Division Regulations: Master’s Degree Requirements](#) – *CRE Chair Viney*
Members are asked to discuss committee and Registrar comments on the [proposed revisions to Part IV. Section II: Master’s Degree Requirements](#) of the [Merced Division Regulations](#) put forth by Graduate Council. The revisions would reduce the minimum of units of approved courses required for a master’s degree by comprehensive exam (Plan II) from 30 to 24 and, commensurately, from 24 to 20 the number of units which must be from graduate-level courses in the 200 series. DivCo approved the proposed revisions for campus review at its December 11, 2019 meeting. If endorsed, the proposed bylaw revisions will be considered by the Division at the April 15, 2019 Meeting of the Division. CRE was the lead committees for this review.

Action Requested: Endorse the proposed revisions for vote by the Division at the April 15, 2019 Meeting of the Division.

Committee Comments:

- [CoR](#) supports the proposed revisions, with comments about the attendant potential benefits.
- [CRE](#) offered comments on the proposed revisions.
- [SoE Executive Committee](#) supports the proposed revisions.

Administration Comments:

- [VPDGE](#) supports the proposed revisions, noting no adverse impacts are anticipated for current graduate programs or students.
- [Registrar](#) has no concerns with the proposal.

Committees that declined to comment, but appreciated the opportunity to opine: CAP, CAPRA, D&E, FWF, UGC, and the SSHA Executive Committee.

B. [Charge to Enrollment Strategy Committee](#) – *AFAS Chair Keske*

Members are asked to discuss committee comments on the [draft charge to the Enrollment Strategy Committee](#). Lead committees for this review are UGC, AFAS, and the school executive committees.

Action Requested: Transmit Division comments to the EVC/Provost.

Committee Comments:

- [CAPRA](#) supports the charge and identified two issues that may need to be addressed.
- [CRE](#) endorsed the charge and offered several comments for consideration regarding the committee's work.
- [GC](#) endorsed the charge and offered several recommendations related to the work of the committee.
- [UGC](#) supports the proposal and offered three comments/observations.

Committees that declined to comment, but appreciated the opportunity to opine: CAP, CoR, FWAF

IV. **Systemwide Review Items****25 Min**A. [Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations](#) – *CoR Chair Scheibner*

Members are asked to discuss committee comments on the proposed [Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations](#) (redline [here](#)). This is the second systemwide review of this policy. GC, CoR, and LASC are the lead committees for this review.

Requested Action: Transmit Division comments to the systemwide Senate Chair by March 13, 2019.

Committee Comments:

- [CoR](#) endorsed the proposed revised policy.
- [GC](#) endorsed the policy while offering comments to improve the policy.
- [FWAF](#) endorses the proposed policy.
- [LASC](#) raised two concerns; students should be able to request an embargo independent of their advisors and the embargo period should be up to six years.
- [UGC](#) endorsed the policy and wondered if it applied to undergraduate theses.
- [SoE Executive Committee](#) noted that prior concerns had been addressed.

Committees that declined to comment, but appreciated the opportunity to opine: CAP, CAPRA, CRE, D&E, and SSHA Executive Committee.

B. [Bylaw 336 Revisions](#) – *FWAF Chair Hamilton*

Members are asked to discuss committee comments on the [proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 336](#), which outlines procedures for the adjudication of administrative disciplinary actions against faculty members. CRE, FWAF, and P&T are the lead committees for this review.

Requested Action: Transmit Division comments to the systemwide Senate Chair by March 13, 2019.

Committee Comments:

- [CAPRA](#) noted the shortened timeline may impact the ability of hearing committee members to meet their teaching obligations and require identification of substitutes.
- [CoR](#) noted an additional revision may be needed to address NSF's new SVSH policy.
- [CRE](#) recommended clarification to several aspects of the bylaws.
- [D&E](#) desired clarification on two points: the rationale for eliminating the pre-hearing conference and the whether mediation is possible after charges have been filed.
- [FWAF](#) recommends there be a process by which the individual making the accusation and the accused can submit names of individuals that they believe cannot serve on the Hearing Committee without bias.
- [GC](#) endorsed the proposed revisions.
- [P&T](#) raised concerns about the 14 calendar day timeline for a faculty member's response to charges and the revisions to 336.F.1 which limits hearing committees to one person not from that division.
- [UGC](#) desired further definition of the meaning of "good cause" with respect to granting extensions to stipulated timelines; raised concern about the 14 calendar day timeline for response to charges and noted the apparent inconsistency in the cover letter and bylaw revisions regarding the ability to pursue mediation after charges have been filed.

Committees that declined to comment, but appreciated the opportunity to opine: GC and the SSHA Executive Committee.

C. [Proposed Revisions to SVSH Academic Frameworks](#) – *FWAF Chair Hamilton*

Members are asked to discuss committee comments on the draft revisions to the SVSH [Investigation and Adjudication Framework for Senate and Non-Senate Faculty](#), and the [Investigation and Adjudication Framework for Staff and Non-Faculty Academic Personnel](#). As per [the cover letter](#), the frameworks have been revised in response to mandates by the California State Auditor. FWAF and P&T are the lead committees for this review.

Requested Action: Transmit Division comments and/or endorsement to the systemwide Senate Chair by March 13, 2019.

Committee Comments:

- [CAPRA](#) endorsed the proposed revisions.
- [CRE](#) supports the revisions, but also notes that the Chancellor should not have the authority to grant her/himself an extension.
- [FWAF](#) recommended the faculty framework specify a mechanism for communication with the academic unit in which accused faculty belongs.
- [GC](#) endorsed the proposed revisions.
- [P&T](#) supports the revisions to both frameworks, but notes it would seem important that extensions to the Chancellor's timeline for response be agreed upon by someone other than the Chancellor.

Committees that declined to comment, but appreciated the opportunity to opine: CoR, and the SSHA Executive Committee.

V. Discussion Item: Chairs' Reports

10 Min

Committee chairs' reports were circulated to members by email on Friday, March 1. Members are invited to follow-up on any reported items.

VI. Informational Items

- 2/15 – [The final report](#) of the Presidential Task Force on Policing was circulated.