Charge for the UC Merced Academic Integrity Task Force

The UC Merced Academic Integrity Task Force is charged with updating both policies and processes related to academic integrity in ways that will effectively support both students and faculty. The task force will examine current policies and processes to ensure that they support the high level of integrity that is expected at the University, and that they are communicated in straightforward ways that will support faculty, students and staff as they engage with the policies and processes.

Key Responsibilities

The key responsibilities for the committee include:

1. Develop clear processes and policies governing academic integrity at UC Merced.
    a. Gain a clear understanding of the current University policies and processes related to academic integrity
    b. Identify potential gaps for students in understanding and engaging with academic integrity policy and practice
    c. Identify potential gaps for faculty in understanding and engaging with academic integrity processes and policy
    d. Benchmark with UC and other peer institutions how academic integrity processes work on their campuses
    e. Working with relevant campus entities (Student Conduct, DUE, University Senate), develop processes for adjudicating and establishing consequences for academic integrity policy violations.

The work of this committee is essential to ensuring that UC Merced faculty and students clearly understand what academic integrity means at UC Merced and how to engage in the processes related to it. This is particularly important at a time when the entire campus community is determining how to engage artificial intelligence, and where to draw the lines about its use.

Deliverables

In the 2025-26 academic year, the UC Merced Academic Integrity Task Force will produce the following:

1. A university-wide process through which students and faculty will be able to resolve academic integrity issues
2. Recommendations for the ideal structure to deliver the process which supports the policy
3. A revised University policy related to academic integrity at UC Merced

Membership

Membership of the UC Merced Academic Integrity taskforce will include:

VC SAE

VP DUE

Dean of Students

CETL representative

Learning Support representative

One Senate faculty member from UGC

One teaching faculty member from UGC

Library representative

University Registrar

Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, SAE

Timeline

January: solidify committee membership

February-May: monthly meetings

August-October: completion of work, recommendations to UGC and campus for moving forward