

SENATE ELECTION

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Membership on the [Committee on Committees](#) (4 openings)
At-Large Members, [Divisional Council](#) (2 openings)

January 21, 2026

TO: MEMBERS OF THE MERCED DIVISION ACADEMIC SENATE

In accordance with the [Merced Division Bylaws](#), an election will be held on **Thursday, February 12, 2026**, for four (4) members of the Committee on Committees and two (2) At-Large members of the Divisional Council of the Merced Academic Senate.

Those elected will take office on **Wednesday, August 19, 2026**.

The [Committee on Committees](#) (CoC) makes appointments to all Senate Standing and Special Committees. The role of CoC in constituting Senate committees is crucial in shaping the nature of shared governance on this campus. This year there are four (4) CoC vacancies to be filled.

Elected CoC members whose two-year terms expire on Tuesday, August 18, 2026

- Mayra Bamaca, School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts
- Roummel Marcia, School of Natural Sciences
- Victor Muñoz, School of Engineering (Chair during AY 25-26)
- Jesus Sandoval-Hernandez, School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts

Elected CoC members remaining on the committee until Tuesday, August 17, 2027

- Eric Cheng, School of Engineering
- Aditya Dasgupta, School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts (Vice Chair during AY 25-26)
- Edward Kolodka, School of Engineering
- Samantha Ocena, School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts

The [At-Large Members](#) are voting members of the Divisional Council (DivCo). One At-Large Member represents the Merced Division at meetings of the [Systemwide Assembly of the Academic Senate](#).

Elected DivCo At-Large Members whose terms expire on Tuesday, August 18, 2026

- Shilpa Khatri, School of Natural Sciences, UCM Representative, Assembly of the Academic Senate
- Stephanie Woo, School of Natural Sciences

Elected DivCo At-Large Member remaining on DivCo until Tuesday, August 17, 2027

- Sidra Goldman-Mellor, School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts

Each Nominating petition must (i) be signed by three (3) Senate faculty members of the Merced Division, (ii) contain a certification of acceptance by the nominee, and (iii) include a brief biography (approx. 120 words).

Nominating petitions are to be returned to the Office of the Academic Senate (senateoffice@ucmerced.edu) by no later than **5:00 pm, Wednesday, February 4, 2026.**

Jeffrey Yoshimi
Secretary/Parliamentarian
Chair, Committee on Rules and Elections