

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE UC MERCED DIVISION
MAY 04, 2009
MINUTES OF MEETING**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to call, the UC Merced Division Academic Senate met on Monday, May 4, 2009 in Room 232 of the Kolligian Library. Senate Chair Martha Conklin presided. Chair Conklin welcomed participants and called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senate Chair Martha Conklin

The Senate Chair reported on the following topics:

- A. Chair Conklin thanked the faculty members who serve on Academic Senate committees.
- B. We are ending the academic year with grave concerns about the budget and UC Merced's issues being set aside in favor of systemwide issues. UC President Mark Yudof has stated that there will be a review of the policy on pay cuts and furloughs.
- C. Formation of Bylaw 55/Academic units. The Senate has formulated a draft policy that was forwarded to EVC Alley.
- D. The Senate has begun to re-examine its Bylaws and Regulations. (CRE Chair Peggy O'Day will discuss this in more detail later in the agenda.)

Chancellor Sung-Mo "Steve" Kang:

The Chancellor reported on the following topics:

- A. Strategic Academic Vision. The document is now available on the UC Merced website. After this academic year, we plan to move on to the next phase of planning. We continue to seek faculty input and support.
- B. 404 Permit. It was a significant achievement to attain the permit and a milestone for the campus. Immediate projects benefitting from the permit are site expansion for the May 16 Commencement and the 1MW solar farm.
- C. Blue Ribbon Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics. The Commission released its recommendations on April 22. The next step is to appoint an advisory committee for the formation of athletic programs.
- D. Beginnings Sculpture. It was erected on April 21 and was a concerted staff and community effort.
- E. Commencement on May 16. In addition to keynote speaker First Lady Michelle Obama, many VIPs are expected to attend including state elected officials, UC Regents, and President Yudof. The Bowl is being prepared for nearly 12,000

seats. The financial cost will be large but it is good publicity for our campus. The University Relations team is trying to raise private funds to defray the cost.

- F. **Building Updates.** The Early Childhood Education Center building will be completed before May 16. The Social Sciences & Management building project is ongoing; OP has assured us that money is available to complete the building. The Student Housing 3 project will proceed for fall 2010 occupancy and will add over 300 beds. Funding for the Science & Engineering 2 building (S&E 2) is unclear but our team is still working on the design.

A Council member asked if faculty would be able to interact with the distinguished guests at Commencement. The Chancellor answered that their time will be limited but he will check with Associate Chancellor Janet Young if there is any opportunity for faculty to meet the guests.

EVC/Provost Keith Alley:

The EVC/Provost reported on the following topics:

- A. **Incorporation of new faculty.** We have extended our senior leadership among the faculty. According to CAP Chair Joe Cerny, the cases that have been presented to CAP have been much better than they were in the past.
- B. **Enrollment.** Last year on this date, we had 1,081 SIRs. This year, we have 1,360. Last year, the melt was about 12%. The goal is to get that down by half a percent. We will have about 150 FTEs for summer. We will not get additional dollars if we over-enroll.
- C. **WASC Accreditation.** The documents for the Capacity review are almost complete and will be submitted on July 7. Accreditation is going to be a very critical piece of the budget process this year in terms of finding the money to provide support for the Educational Effectiveness phase. In the coming year, we will have to collect the data and we will have one program go through initial program review. In Spring 2011, WASC will come to campus for the second phase. If all goes well, we will get initial accreditation in June 2011. The problem of UC Merced students being turned down by other institutions because UC Merced is an unaccredited university has, for the most part, been fixed. EVC Alley asked the faculty to report to him any student complaints, and he will contact the institution that the student is applying to. He mentioned that in nearly all cases, the institutions have been willing to overlook the accreditation issue and accept the students' grades.
- D. **Budget.** For the next three years, we lose the \$14 million in state supplemental support. There are no enrollment growth dollars due to the state budget crisis. Other campuses provided us with the \$6.3 million that was our enrollment growth dollars. Next year, OP will provide the \$6.3 million. But, they are

uncertain about providing it after that. We will continue to fight to make UC Merced a systemwide priority. If Proposition 1A fails, higher education will likely take another sizeable hit. S&E 2 will probably not materialize without the passing of the Proposition.

A Council member inquired about alternative measures if Proposition 1A fails. EVC Alley said OP wants to bring in a group of people from other campuses to look at alternative growth scenarios. The Chancellor mentioned exploring the possibility of the state budget having a separate line item for UC Merced.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Draft Division Meeting Minutes, December 4, 2008
- B. Proposed Academic Senate Regulation Changes
 - 1. Senate Regulation 65, Academic Probation and Dismissal
 - 2. Senate Regulation 75, Undergraduate Honors at Graduation

ACTION: Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEM

- A. Proposed Revised Bylaw Language II.1.A – *CRE Chair O’Day*

Chair O’Day briefly summarized the background of this proposed change and reiterated what this proposed change consists of (information contained in meeting packet). Faculty will vote by paper ballot. A Council member expressed concern that some senior faculty that have part time administrative roles would be restricted from serving on Academic Senate committees and we would therefore lose their input and experience. Chair O’Day responded that there will be a time in the future when we will have more senior faculty. A Council member requested that a pro and con statement accompany the paper ballot. Another Council member suggested allowing individuals with administrative titles to serve on all committees - including CAP and P&T - but requiring them to recuse themselves when a case or issue comes up in their own discipline or area. A Council member tried to move to have a pro and con statement with the ballot. That move was seconded. However, Chair O’Day pointed out that this is a discussion item and there is nothing to move on. Furthermore, there is no quorum. Chair O’Day will ask CRE to consider the issue of a pro and con statement, but she pointed out that the ballots will be mailed to faculty this week.

V. ANNOUNCEMENT AND PRESENTATION OF SENATE AWARDS

Chair Conklin presented the following awards: Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award (Professor Teenie Matlock), Dr. Fred Spiess Award for Distinguished Service to the Academic Senate (Professor Shawn Kantor), Distinguished Early Career Research

Award (Professor Cristián Ricci), and the Distinction in Research Award (Professor Michael Spivey).

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAPRA – Chair Evan Heit

CAPRA tries to foster beneficial connections between academic planning and resources. The committee's guests have reported on capitol planning, space planning, operating budget, School of Management planning, and WASC. The committee has helped the Administration prepare for budget meetings with OP and has improved communication between our campus and OP. The CAPRA chair serves on the systemwide budget committee, the University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB). This year, the committee has reviewed the Sociology major, the Psychology graduate group proposal, the History honors proposal, the School of Management proposal, WAG report, capitol improvement plans, the Long Range Development Plan, general education, and the Strategic Academic Vision. CAPRA also reviews strategic plans from the Schools and will work more on those during the summer to advise EVC Alley on resource and hiring issues. Chair Heit emphasized shared governance and stressed the importance of keeping OP and the systemwide Senate informed of UC Merced's excellence.

CAP – Committee Member Jan Wallander (Vice Chair Roland Winston is absent)

Six of the ten CAP members are external and have given us extraordinary service in reviewing personnel cases. The committee reviews appointments, merits, promotions, and mid career assessments. CAP has evaluated 49 cases so far this year. There is a meeting on May 8 with the CAP Members, campus AP Chairs, and the Deans to discuss the challenge of reviewing mid career assessments. The committee also reviewed the assessment of teaching and the systemwide policy on salary reduction and furloughs.

CoC – Chair Henry Forman

CoC's main responsibility is to populate the Senate committees and to respond to the Administration when it requests a Senate representative. Filling committees is a challenge due to the small number of faculty - senior faculty in particular. Overburdening the junior faculty is a concern. The committee tries to strike a balance between retaining the same members to keep their expertise while also having the perspective of new members. Chair Forman pointed out that UC Merced's CoC is unique in that its recommendations are reviewed by Divisional Council.

GRC – Chair Valerie Leppert

GRC fulfills the task of what are normally three committees on other campuses: graduate council, research committee, and Library committee. The GRC chair serves on the corresponding systemwide committee, the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) while GRC Vice Chair Patti LiWang serves on the University Committee on Research Policy (UCORP). GRC worked with the campus WASC

steering committee and the Graduate Dean to formulate a graduate program review policy. GRC also revised existing policies that needed to include WASC requirements such as the CRF policy and the procedures for establishing new graduate programs and emphasis areas. The committee has reviewed 17 CRFs so far, the Psychology Graduate program proposal, and opined on policies at the request of the systemwide Senate and DivCo. In addition, GRC gave out research and teaching awards, selected graduate students for NRT awards, and awarded the GRC research/travel/shared equipment grants.

UGC – Committee member Kathleen Hull (Chair Manuel Martin-Rodriguez left the meeting)

UGC reviewed over 100 courses this year and recently approved the 2009-2010 catalog copy for all the Schools. It reviewed over 60 applications for Regents Scholarships. In addition, it has reviewed the following policies: revised CRF policy (include WASC requirements), Honors programs guidelines, academic probation, dismissal, and minimal progress policy, policies for reviewing substantive changes to existing majors, and an undergraduate program review policy. UGC has also reviewed changes in majors submitted by the Schools and has opined on systemwide review items such as the Education Abroad Business Plan and the WAG Report.

Professor Chris Kello – UCM Representative to UCFW

(UC Merced does not have a Senate committee on Faculty Welfare so Professor Kello represents the campus on the systemwide committee.) UCFW drafted a memo regarding the lack of a clear, transparent procedure from the Administration on how to respond to the budget crisis. Other issues that the committee addressed are the pension fund and the UC pay scale.

There being no further business, committee adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Attest:

Martha Conklin, Senate Chair

Minutes prepared by:
Simrin Takhar, Senate Assistant