

**COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ELECTIONS
ANNUAL REPORT
2015-2016**

TO THE MERCED DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

In academic year 2015-2016, the Committee on Rules and Elections (CRE) conducted business via teleconference, email, and in-person meetings in order to conduct business with respect to its duties as outlined in UCM Senate Bylaw [II.IV.3.B](#). The issues that CRE considered and acted on this year are described as follows:

GENERAL PROCEDURES

The Committee on Rules and Elections (CRE) issues formal Legislative Rulings to resolve disputes or clear up ambiguities regarding Senate authority, procedures, or jurisdiction. Legislative Rulings are binding unless modified by subsequent legislation or action from the Board of Regents. CRE also prepares and reports to the Division, or to any of its Faculties, such changes and additions to their Bylaws and Regulations proposed by other committees or by individuals; edits and publishes the Manual of the Merced Division at such intervals as it deems expedient; and determines whether a person meets the conditions for membership in the Division.

ELECTIONS

- ***Academic Senate Elections:*** The call for nominations for six positions on the Committee on Committees and two At-large members of the Divisional Council was distributed to the Senate membership on April 11, 2016. All positions for the Committee on Committees were for two-year terms, while one At-Large position would serve for two years, the other position serving for one year. Nominating petitions required five signatures including the signature of the candidate showing willingness to serve. Complete forms were due to the Senate on April 29, 2016. On May 2, 2016, CRE extended the nomination period to allow nominations to be returned to the Senate office on May 6, 2016. On June 6, 2016, CRE extended the nomination period to allow nominations to be returned to the Senate office on June 17, 2016.
- ***Online Voting System:*** CRE continued to use the system developed in collaboration with the Cognitive & Information Sciences Unit and the Office of Information Technology.

FORMAL LEGISLATIVE RULINGS ISSUED

CRE made no formal legislative rulings in AY 2015-2016.

REVIEW REQUEST ITEMS FROM DIVCO

- ***03/07/16 Voting Rights Policy:*** In October 2015, CRE discussed the drafting of a policy related to the process for voting rights and eligibility in the Schools. The policy will be formally proposed in Fall 2016.

REVIEW REQUEST ITEMS FROM THE SCHOOLS

- ***02/1/2016 Review of Cognitive and Information Sciences Bylaws:*** In November 2015, CRE was asked to review the bylaws for the Cognitive and Information Sciences program, which were unanimously approved by the committee.

REVIEW REQUEST ITEMS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

- ***11/30/15 Revision to the MAPP:*** CRE considered revisions to the Merced Academic Personnel Policies & Procedures (MAPP).

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Vanderschraaf, Chair (SSHA)
Lin Tian, Vice Chair (SNS)
Lilian Davila (SOE)

Ex-Officio
Cristián Ricci, Divisional Council Chair (SSHA)
Joshua Viers, Division Council Vice Chair (SOE)

Senate Staff
Fatima Paul, Senate Assistant Director
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