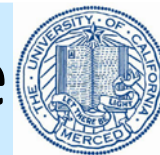


Contact Us:
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Merced Academic Senate



December 2013 Issue

<http://senate.ucmerced.edu>

Senate Monthly Publication

Division News

The Division Meeting for the fall semester was held on Tuesday, November 19, and was well attended by Senate Members. Invited guests UC Academic Senate Chair William "Bill" Jacob, Chancellor Leland and Provost/EVC Peterson engaged in a lively discussion about this year's budget request process, the Strategic Focusing Initiative, the MOU, and physical campus planning.

UCM Strategic Academic Focusing Initiative: Working Group members expressed their gratitude to all who submitted proposals as part of the strategic academic focusing exercise. Please visit the [website](#) to view the full letter from the Working Group.

UCM Faculty Professional Development Workshop Series- December 12: The Faculty Welfare, Diversity and Academic Freedom (FWDAF) committee and the Academic Personnel Office announce the UC Merced Faculty Professional Development Workshop Series. The next seminar in the faculty professional development series "[Publish and Flourish](#)" is Thursday, Dec. 12 from noon – 1:30 pm in KL 360.

Senate Events:

• Committee Meetings:

CAP- Dec. 6, 13 & 20
CAPRA- Dec. 10
COR- Dec. 4
DivCo- Dec. 3
FWDAF- Dec. 12
GC- Dec. 12
UGC- Dec. 11

• Systemwide Committees:

Academic Council- Dec. 18
BOARS- Dec. 6
CCGA- Dec. 4
UCEP- Dec. 2
UCFW- Dec. 13
UCORP- Dec. 16
UCPB- Dec. 3
UCPT- Dec. 5

Announcements:

• New Faculty Orientation- January 16:

The Office of Research and Economic Development will provide an orientation for new faculty to learn about the grants ecosystem at UC Merced from 8:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m. in KL 232. Please contact [Sara McDonnell](#) for more information.

• Campus Closure:

During the 2013 holiday season, UC Merced will officially close for nine (9) days between Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2013, and Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014.



Committee Highlights

- [The Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA) finalized its Call for FTE proposals and the Call is currently being reviewed by the Provost.
- [The Committee on Faculty Welfare, Diversity and Academic Freedom](#) (FWDAF) submitted its lead reviewer comments on diversity and the Moreno Report to Division Council.
- [The Committee on Research](#) (COR) is drafting a revised UCM ORU policy.
- [The Graduate Council](#) (GC) recently approved a practice for notification of changes made to Graduate Policies and Procedures. All changes to Graduate Policies and Procedures should be sent to Graduate Council as a notification for review. Specifically, any changes to a graduate program's degree requirements require the approval of the Council to ensure they are consistent with campus and systemwide policies.
- [Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC) is reviewing the WASC Core Competencies and Course Buyout Policy and discussing plans for the review of General Education scheduled this academic year. The Management program review site visit took place on Dec. 5-6. See the [agenda](#) for the site visit.

Did You Know...

Dr. Lei ,Yue and Professors Arnold Kim and Roummel Marcia were awarded \$880,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to lead a program called Data-enabled Science and Computational Analysis Research, Training and Education for Students. Read more about [DESCARTES](#) project.

Systemwide Activities

Boosting California's Postsecondary Education Performance Report: Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom released the Committee for Economic Development report Boosting California's Postsecondary Education Performance. The report calls for California to focus resources for higher education institutions, recommends performance measures and specific collaborative approaches to transform the postsecondary education in California. Read the full [report](#).

President's Seven Initiatives: UC President Janet Napolitano's seven initiatives aimed at supporting undocumented students, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students and research across the 10-campus university will be funded through one-time allocations. The majority of these initiatives will be governed by campus representatives and the specific set of strategies will vary by campus and by project. Learn more about the [seven initiatives](#) listed below:

- Enhancing Community College Transfer to UC
- Research and Technology Transfer Optimization
- Supporting Academic Graduate Education
- Supporting Undocumented Students
- Tuition and 2014-15 University Budget
- President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
- The First Research University to Achieve Carbon Neutrality