

REGULAR MEETING OF THE UC MERCED DIVISION
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 4, 2006
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to call, the Merced Division met on Thursday, May 4, 2006 in the Redwood Room at Castle. Academic Senate Chair Roland Winston presided. Chair Winston welcomed participants and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHANCELLOR

• **Carol Tomlinson-Keasey, Chancellor**

The Chancellor thanked the faculty for all their hard work this year. In recent meetings with the students, the Chancellor said that it was clear that they, too, were appreciative of the faculty. She noted a significant milestone for UC Merced with a total of one-hundred active grants.

Search for a new Chancellor. The search committee is almost set to select a new Chancellor for UC Merced. The committee will be headed by a professional search group and consist of five faculty members (three from the Merced campus and two selected by the Systemwide Academic Council); Regents; staff, alumni and foundation representatives; an undergraduate and graduate student; and community members.

Enrollment Issues. The current SIR (Student Intent to Register) data is a very significant cause of concern. There is a strong likelihood that we will yield approximately 400 less students than last year. Falling short by 400 translates into significant budget implications. If it weren't for the budget implications, there is something to be said for growing the campus more slowly. The Chancellor attributed the low numbers to three main reasons: lack of guaranteed freshman housing, few existing majors and the range of majors, and a need for more financial aid. She reminded members that these numbers are preliminary at this point and that additional students may come via the referral pool (May 14, 2006 deadline) and from transfer students (June 1, 2006 deadline).

Questions, Answers, and Comments

Question: Are there plans at the Office of the President to deal with the budgetary consequences of slower growth?

Response: We have to renegotiate the budget with the Office of the President. Of course budgetary consequences will also need to be renegotiated. Unlike all other campuses, UC Merced's state budget is a line item in the Governor's budget and will continue to be such until 2010. This should be drawn out several years past 2010.

Comment: You've mentioned quite a bit about the status of undergraduate enrollment, please comment on the graduate students. Several of the faculty consider the numbers to be low. We simply don't have enough time, money or scholarship to bring them here.

Response: I don't interpret the situation as negatively as you. In fact I believe that it looks very good with thirty-seven graduate students coming – this represents a 100% increase and is pretty remarkable for a faculty of this size. We are working hard to get international students here. And of course the financial implication of international students is very important to us. As we attend graduate student fairs we get a lot of positive feed-back and this year received two-hundred plus completed applications.

Comment: If we are not able to hire faculty at the rate we planned we won't be able to establish a credible graduate program. What prevents us from getting graduate students in a particular field is the lack of a viable research program.

Comment: More specifically, will the lower enrollment impact the previously projected number of FTE for faculty hires next year?

Response: We have carryover on searches we didn't complete last year or this year. But yes, the lower enrollment will affect the number of faculty we will be able to hire. Executive Vice Chancellor/Provost Ashley reported on the number of hires currently under review, open, and carried over from last year. Although too early to give specific numbers, he agreed that the lower enrollment will result in a reduced number of faculty hires.

III. IN APPRECIATION

On behalf of a grateful Academic Senate, Chair Winston presented Chancellor Tomlinson-Keasey with a token of its appreciation. It is the Senate's hope that the framed photographs will serve as a fond remembrance of the campus she has helped build. He commented that as the curtain closes on a brilliant stage of Carol's career the adage "always leave them wanting more" is certainly apropos.

IV. SPECIAL ORDERS – CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes of the November 21, 2005, Meeting of the Division

Modification of Bylaw, Part I, 3.A and 3.B

Modification of Bylaw, Part I, 4.A.2

Modification of Bylaw, Part III, 1.A

Modification of Bylaw, Part III, 2.B.2

ACTION: Hearing no objection, the Consent Calendar was approved as noticed.

V. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

GRADUATE AND RESEARCH COUNCIL

- Shawn Kantor, Chair

REPORT: Referring to the table provided with the Notice of Meeting, Chair Kantor indicated that two rounds of faculty awards have been funded and a third group is currently being reviewed. A fourth proposal for Shared Equipment Grants will be sent to the faculty next month.

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING AND RESEARCH ALLOCATION

- **Roger Bales, Chair**

REPORT: One of CAPRA's main activities has been to provide input to the Strategic Plan process and then to review the Plans of the Schools, Institutes, and Graduate Groups. CAPRA is nearing completion of its review and formulating its recommendations. He thanked everyone for their hard work in producing the documents.

CAPRA will make recommendations on faculty hiring, space planning, the budget, graduate education, as well as undergraduate majors, and Institutes. Chair Bales offered preliminary comments on the following topics:

Faculty Hiring. CAPRA is concerned about the balance between non-tenured and tenured faculty and will recommend that a greater number of senior faculty be hired in the next round of faculty hires. He added that the Schools should have some flexibility in the hiring level.

Space Planning. CAPRA has gone on record both this year and last articulating a lack of confidence in the current process to plan for and provide adequate space for research at UCM. There is some hope, however, that the current ad hoc Campus Space Committee will help reverse this. CAPRA eagerly awaits the committee's report.

Budget. CAPRA will recommend increased faculty participation in the process.

Graduate Student Support. UC Merced needs a more aggressive model for out-of-state fee waivers than the other UC campuses.

Comment: Parliamentarian David Kelley commented that the Senate's Memorial to the Regents requesting "*that the Regents of the University of California structure and advocate a budget for the University that eliminates non-resident tuition for academic graduate students*" has been approved by UC Merced and goes forward, with the results from the other UC campuses, to the Assembly of the Academic Senate for consideration next week. If approved by the Assembly, the Memorial will be forwarded to President Dynes with a request that it be presented to The Regents.

Comment: Dean Pallavicini inquired about the status of two Natural Sciences proposals, the *Biomedical and Systems Biology Research Institute* and the *UC Merced Health Sciences and Medical Education* proposal. Feedback from the Senate would be useful.

Response: CAPRA has reviewed both proposals and is strongly supportive of the Biomedical and Systems Biology Research Institute proposal. The Dean will be invited to make a presentation to CAPRA. CAPRA's recommendation will be forwarded to the Division Council.

UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

- **Mike Colvin, Chair**

REPORT: UGC's Subcommittee on Courses has forwarded nearly 200 Course Request Forms for approval. The committee has also dealt with appeals from students, approving new minors and new emphasis tracks. For new majors approved last year we dealt with the new course descriptions, Catalog copy, and the like. We also dealt with several policy issues. An electronic offset of UGC's Minutes and Agenda is available.

Question: Proposals for new majors come from the School. Is there something that UGC can do to smooth that process?

Response: Having approved several majors now UGC and the Schools have a sense of what works. I do have a Frequently Asked Questions document that I can share. One thing that I would emphasize is the fact that we have a fairly large number of emphasis tracks, especially in SSHA, that are almost ready to become majors. Although it may appear on paper that we offer few minors, with the various emphasis tracks we really do offer a lot of diversity in a small number of packages.

Question: Has there been any progress on developing double majors?

Response: Actually this has never come up. The challenge would be in double counting courses. If a student wanted to make a certain request then UGC would look at that.

DIVISION COUNCIL

- **Roland Winston, Chair**

REPORT: In the spirit of shared governance the Senate has an on-going dialog with the Chancellor and Provost. It is important to the Senate that a durable and fair shared governance structure be in place before our new Chancellor is appointed. The Senate concerns, in no particular order include (1) the personnel process; (2) space allocation and planning; (3) academic organization and support services; (4) budget responsibility and transparency; and (5) communication. A chart was displayed showing these topics with the Senate's recommendation and their current status.

(1) Personnel Process

- Adopt interim academic personnel policies and procedures from another UC campus (i.e. UCI) and transition them over the next several months into a final form that better fits UC Merced's situation.
- Disseminate the interim academic personnel policies and procedures to all involved in the personnel process.
- Develop a campus salary management policy for UC Merced in accord with APM 160.

Status: UC Merced Academic Personnel Policies are in progress.

(2) Space Allocation and Planning

- Delegate a campus-wide space committee to have final authority for space planning, determining all space policy, assigning staff space and allocating space to schools, to institutes, to College One and to other units.
- Create standing committee for space allocation and planning from the current ad hoc space planning task force to engage in continual process of capital and other space planning.
- Schools and other units to have the authority to allocate space internally.

Status: The ad hoc Campus-wide Space Committee is currently deliberating. The Provost suggests using their recommendations as a starting point.

(3) Academic Organization and Support Services

- Delegate academic support to the deans (e.g. IT, faculty support center) to build the appropriate accountability standards.
- Immediately adopt UC Berkeley policies governing summer school. UGC will adapt procedures to better fit UC Merced's situation and UC summer school policy.
- Appoint a search committee by the end of spring 2006 semester and begin search for a College One Dean over the summer.

Status: A Dean for College One is part of the ongoing budget discussions. Our initial centralized approach to providing faculty support was very efficient. However, as we continue grow, this structure will be examined and modified. We need to continue to explore ways to decentralize other services such as IT. User services and other direct support need to be located near the different user groups. Together we need to explore the right mix of centralized IT and distributed user services.

(4) Budget Responsibility and Transparency

- Implement Regents Standing Order 105.2.d, "The Academic Senate is authorized to select a committee or committees to advise a Chancellor concerning a campus budget."
- Delegate to schools, graduate groups, College One and other units the authority and responsibility over budget decisions.
- Consistent with UC practice, empower VC for Research with budget responsibility over a fraction (e.g., 50 percent) of Indirect Cost Recovery funds to be used in consultation with GRC and CAPRA.

Status: A centralized strategy has helped us monitor expenditures. CAPRA's role in the budget consultation process will be expanded.

(5) Communication

- Chancellor and EVC to establish monthly meetings with Divisional Council to report on major issues and respond to questions. EVC to meet bi-monthly with CAPRA.
- EVC to meet at least bi-monthly with CAPRA and with other senate committees semi-annually, as needed.

Status: Agreed

Chair Winston thanked those present for their active participation in today's meeting. There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Attest: Roland Winston, Chair

Minutes prepared by Nancy Clarke, Senate Director