



**FALL MEETING OF THE MERCED DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
NOVEMBER 28, 2016**

Pursuant to the call, the Merced Division of the Academic Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on November 28, 2016 in Room 232 of the Kolligian Library, Senate Chair Susan Amussen presiding.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Division Chair Amussen reported that the proposal for the new General Education program was distributed on November 22, 2016 to the faculty for feedback. Meetings to discuss the proposal have been scheduled with School Executive Committees and other faculty committees. The Chair noted that the current proposal is to establish an integrated program of General Education for UC Merced undergraduates, which contrasts with General Education's current formulation as collection of school-based courses.
2. During Giving Tuesday, Graduate Council, Graduate Division, and Development will be raising funds to support the Shadish Award, a new award, established in honor of Professor William Shadish, to recognize annually a graduate student with outstanding achievements in research *and* teaching.
3. A budget presentation specifically for faculty is being scheduled for early spring semester.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of the Agenda
- B. Approval of Draft Minutes of the May 9, 2016 Meeting of the Division
- C. Annual Committee Reports AY 15-16¹
 - [Committee on Academic Personnel](#)
 - [Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#)
 - [Committee on Research](#)
 - [Committee on Rules and Elections](#)
 - [Diversity and Equity](#)
 - [Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#)
 - [Graduate Council](#)
 - [Undergraduate Council](#)

All items were approved as presented.

III. CAMPUS UPDATE

1. Chancellor Leland reported that the University of California, as a system, is addressing concerns regarding undocumented students stemming from the presidential election.
2. Over the upcoming calendar year, the administration, in consultation with the faculty, will be developing much needed budget policies together with models for budget planning and management. During the spring 2017 semester, the campus will develop a campus-wide, multi-year workforce plan to allocate staff FTE in keeping with three priority areas outlined in the campus's vision: research excellence and academic distinction, organizational efficiency and sustainability, and student success.
3. The campus is now in the design review phase of the 2020 project. Approximately 75 faculty members have been invited to review building designs; their input is critical to establishing functional buildings.

¹ Committee on Committees will generate an annual report beginning in 2016-17.

IV. INFORMATION ITEM: MODELING INSTRUCTIONAL DEMAND AT 10,000 STUDENTS

This academic year the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation is undertaking efforts to model instructional demand at 10,000 students to facilitate resource allocation in support of student learning and success. A model has been developed. Immediate next steps include meeting with Institutional Research and Decision Support to validate the model's assumptions and data inputs as a step toward strengthening the model's utility as a planning tool.

V. PROPOSED REVISED FACULTY HIRING PLAN

A. Model(s) Presentation

In preparation for agenda item V.B., CAPRA Chair Mukesh Singhal briefly outlined the proposed models for faculty hiring developed by CAPRA that were recently provided to the faculty for feedback. Also described were the process by which the models were developed, the challenges CAPRA faced in identifying possible models, and the historical context for the proposal. The Chair noted that CAPRA's main challenge was to find an appropriate balance between SAFI pillar-related hiring and foundational, program-directed hires that respond to instructional demand.

B. Facilitated Discussion with Faculty and Administration Leadership

In discussing CAPRA's models, members variously encouraged the following: a model that allocated foundational lines to schools, rather than programs; the importance of considering the needs of high enrollment programs that are stressed in their ability to deliver undergraduate majors and graduate programs; and transparency regarding the feedback received from the School Executive Committees in response to the proposed models. Members also noted the need to balance program specific needs with other strategic initiatives. Toward this end, a member suggested that CAPRA consider developing a set of metrics that address the research, teaching and service mission for use in evaluating program contributions and needs in support of FTE allocation. CAPRA encouraged members who would like to comment to do so, regardless of the November 22, 2016 deadline.

VI. ACTION ITEM: PROPOSED REVISIONS TO DIVISION BYLAWS

The vote on proposed revisions to the Division Bylaws was held and then subsequently determined to be invalid due to a lack of quorum. The proposed revisions will be put to an electronic vote of the faculty in spring.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

The chairs of the standing committees reported the following committee business for AY 2016-17 thus far:

- [Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#)
CAPRA had no additional report beyond item V of this agenda.
- [Committee on Academic Personnel](#)
CAP and the Academic Personnel Office held its annual meetings for the faculty on November 16. CAP recently submitted to Division Council a proposal to delegate authority to the school deans for appointments at step 3 and below and for short form advancements. The proposed changes are typical of all but one UC campus.
- [Committee on Committees](#)
COC plans to conduct its annual survey earlier this spring to more fully populate committees before the fall semester. There are opportunities for Merced faculty to sit on systemwide committees. If interested, please contact the CoC Chair.
- [Committee on Diversity and Equity](#)
This academic year D&E launched the faculty equity advisor program. To support transparency and equity in appointments, D&E is proposing revisions to the guidelines by which endowed chairs are appointed. This coming spring D&E will be hosting its annual diversity speaker.

- [Committee on Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#)
FWAF has drafted a statement of principles to support planning related to the management and allocation of incidental and startup funds. FWAF is collaborating with administration to establish a police advisory committee. FWAF is in the process of drafting a survey to faculty, students, and staff to assess afterschool childcare needs. FWAF has been consulting with CIO Kovalchick and Associate Chancellor Putney on cybersecurity with the intention of ensuring academic freedom.
- [Committee on Research](#)
CoR is facilitating the periodic review of the Sierra Nevada Research Institution (SNRI), and has received a proposal from the Center of the Humanities to become an Organized Research Unit. The committee has conducted, and is currently analyzing data from, a survey of faculty on support for extramural funding. A summary will be shared with the entire Senate and results will inform recommendations to the Office of Research and Economic Development to support workforce planning. CoR members are participating in the 2020 building design reviews.
- [Committee on Rules and Elections](#)
In addition to normal business, CRE is preparing a voting guide for units.
- [Graduate Council](#)
This fall GC approved *A Proposal for a Program of Professional Graduate Studies with PDST in pursuit of the Degree of Master of Management Offered by a New Graduate Group in Management of Innovation, Sustainability, and Technology*. GC also endorsed the closure of the Environmental Systems' program review, bringing to conclusion the first periodic review of a graduate program at UC Merced. GC has also modified the policy that permits graduate students to TA other graduate students.
- [Undergraduate Council](#)
In addition to normal business, UGC is revising its course request policy.
 - [General Education Subcommittee](#)
The Chair of the GESC reported that the current General Education curriculum has not served our students well with respect the ideals of a research university, noting that GE should provide students with the opportunity to be taught by faculty passionate about their research. The Chair emphasized that the new GE proposal responds to this, and that great care has been taken to involve faculty in developing the proposal over the last several years. The Chair urged involvement in the GESC from every school, and from everyone in reviewing the proposal for a new GE program.

VIII. PETITIONS OF STUDENTS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None.