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Merced Academic Senate



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<http://senate.ucmerced.edu>

Senate Monthly Publication

Division News

Interactive Whiteboard Demonstration: As part of planning for two new buildings, the Student Services Building and the Classroom and Academic Office Building, Steelcase will be demonstrating an interactive whiteboard system on Wednesday, February 6 at 11 AM in KL 473. All interested faculty are welcome to attend. A description of the board can be found [here](#). The building committee is interested in feedback from faculty and instructors on their interest in using this technology.

UCM Library Open Access Fund Pilot: On January 15, the campus Library launched a pilot fund to support open access publishing costs. Along with all UC campus libraries, we are partnering with the [California Digital Library \(CDL\)](#) to assist scholars who do not have funds to pay for open access publishing fees. UC Merced authors (faculty, lecturers, librarians, post-docs, and currently enrolled graduate students) are eligible to apply for funds. Priority will be given to articles with multiple authors from UC Merced, and those that represent collaborative or interdisciplinary research. Authors with grant funds that can be used for open access charges are not eligible and only articles published in the [Directory of Open Access Journals](#) will be funded. Articles with publication dates prior to November 1, 2012 are not eligible. The application and further information can be found [here](#).

Search for a new Academic Senate Executive Director: We are currently searching to fill the position of Senate Executive Director. Please share the [advertisement for the position](#) widely with colleagues. Senate Vice-Chair Ignacio López-Calvo is chairing the search committee. Any comments or suggestions are welcome and can be sent to senatechair@ucmerced.edu.

Senate Events:

• [Committee Meetings:](#)

DivCo – Feb 13
CAPRA – Feb 7 & 21
GRC – Feb 12 & 26
UGC – Feb 14

• [Systemwide Committees:](#)

BOARS – Feb 1
UCEP – Feb 4
UCPB – Feb 5
CCGA – Feb 6
UCFW – Feb 8
UCORP – Feb 11
UCOLASC – Feb 22
Academic Council – Feb 27

• [Meeting of the Division- Apr 4](#)

3:00-5:00PM
Kolligian Library, Room 232

Announcements:

- Urban Land Institute Report was released. Final report found [here](#).
- Chancellor Leland approved the Life and Environmental System Bylaw 55. See approval [memo](#).



Committee Highlights

- [The Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA) is grateful to those who provided thoughtful comments on the CAPRA process. The final version of the [CAPRA FTE Request Process](#) and criteria was distributed with the [Budget Call](#) on January 25. We are hoping to provide more information on the financial parameters in the next few weeks. In their planning, faculty should assume that we will be able to support about the same number of appointments next year as we are doing this year. Also, please note that there is now a provision for recommending LPSOE in the process.
- [The Graduate and Research Council](#) (GRC) approved the revised Interdisciplinary Humanities CCGA Proposal.
- [The Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC) is currently reviewing proposals for a B.A in English and a B.A. in Spanish. On February 14, 2013 UCOE Interim Director Keith Williams will meet with the Senate and various campus constituents to discuss Online Education.
- [The Committee on Faculty Welfare](#) (FW) encourages all faculty to participate in the UCM Campus Climate Survey. The personal link to the survey was sent on February 1. For more information on the Climate Survey can be found [here](#).

Systemwide Activities

Sequestration to begin March 1, 2013- UC Federal Government Relations released a [factsheet](#) on Sequestration, a mechanism for automatic federal spending cuts, scheduled to occur on March 1 unless Congress acts. As the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has not provided guidance to federal agencies for implementing the cuts, the impacts of sequestration on UC federal awards in FY 2013 are difficult to quantify. The campus is collecting information on how the threat of sequestration is impacting faculty, labs and graduate students. Faculty are encouraged to contact [Lacey Kiriakou](#), UCM Federal Government Relations Director, if sequestration impacts your research or funding.

President Yudof's Resignation- University of California President Mark Yudof plans to step down on August 31, 2013, about five years after he became the 19th president of the UC system. The former law professor plans to return to teaching law on the UC Berkeley campus. The UC Board of Regents will create a committee to search for Yudof's successor.