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# Merced Academic Senate

May 2019 Issue

<http://senate.ucmerced.edu>

Senate Monthly Publication

## Division News

**From the Senate Chair:** With the end of the semester upon us, I welcome you to the penultimate newsletter of the academic year.

Consistent with the month of May, committee meetings are concluding for the year, and carry-forward lists have been started. The exception is the Committee on Academic Personnel, which will continue to meet into June. CAP's members provide critically important service to the faculty, campus, and system. I thank its [members](#), including those from sister campuses, for their commitment, which requires reviewing about 95 cases a year.

The Committee on Committees has worked diligently this spring to appoint the membership of next year's committees. As announced at the Meeting of the Division, Tom Hansford, a Professor of Political Science, has been appointed Senate Chair. A Vice Chair is pending. Appointments have also been finalized for nearly all committees, and it is a pleasure to report here by committee the Senate's leadership for the coming year. School affiliations are noted parenthetically.

- CAPRA Patti LiWang (SNS)
- UGC Jay Sharping (SNS)
- GC LeRoy Westerling (SoE)
- COR Michael Scheibner (SNS)
- CAP Nella Van Dyke (SSHA)
- FWAF Carolin Frank (SNS)
- D&E Asmeret Berhe (SNS)
- CRE Christopher Viney (SoE)

A big thank you to CoC for its work, and to the faculty who will be assuming these important roles on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Finally, the Division's vote on the Memorial to the Regents on Fossil Fuel Divestment closed on Wednesday, May 1, at 5 p.m. The Memorial was approved with 101 votes in favor, 10 opposed, and 6 abstentions. The results have been reported to systemwide Senate Chair May. It is our understanding that, across the system, the Memorial has been approved by the number of Divisions required for it to be put to a vote of the Academic Senate systemwide. So please anticipate a second ballot on this topic at some future point.

In closing, I look forward to seeing many of you at graduation, as we celebrate this year's class of remarkable students! - Kurt Schnier

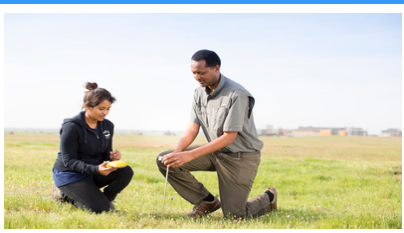
### MAY MEETING SCHEDULES

#### Merced Division

- Divisional Council – May 13
- CAP – May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
- CAPRA – May 2, 16
- COR – May 1, 15
- CRE – Business via email
- COC – May 10
- D&E – May 3
- FWAF – No meeting
- GC – May 6
- LASC – No meeting
- UGC – May 1, 15
- AFAS – Business by email

### CONTACT THE CHAIR

Questions, concerns, or issues you would like to see addressed? Contact Senate Chair Schnier at [senatechair@ucmerced.edu](mailto:senatechair@ucmerced.edu)



## Committee Highlights

[The Committee on Academic Personnel](#) (CAP) is conducting business as usual.

[The Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA) received a presentation from Senate Chair Schnier and Assistant Vice Chancellor Romi Kaur on a proposed graduate funding model.

[The Committee on Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#) (FWAF) is reviewing and opining on the APWG proposal and the department chair duties document.

[The Committee on Research](#) (CoR) is discussing ways to potentially modify the Senate faculty grants program. The committee will also hear updates from Interim VC Michael Riley on composite benefit rates.

[Graduate Council](#) (GC) received a presentation from Senate Chair Schnier and AVC Kaur on a proposed graduate funding model. GC also approved the proposal to establish a distance education version of UC Merced Extension's existing [Teacher Preparation Program](#).

[The Committee on Rules and Elections](#) (CRE) has issued the outcome of the vote on the Memorial to the Regents. CRE also reviewed the proposed new APM 011 section on academic freedom for non-faculty academic appointees, and the proposal by the Academic Planning Work Group (APWG).

[The Committee on Diversity and Equity](#) (D&E) finalized the Guidelines for Faculty Retention at its May 3 meeting. Members also discussed the APWG proposal, the proposed new APM 011, and the Interim Policy on Responding to Immigration Enforcement Involving Patients on UC Facilities.

[The Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications](#) received a presentation from the University Librarian and Library staff on Library funding benchmarks. The committee is reviewing and opining on the proposed new APM section, APM 011.

[The Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC) has completed its third review of the proposal for a B.S. in Economics and will vote on the proposal electronically. Discussion items have also included the Department Chair Duties, APM-011, and the APWG Proposal.

[Divisional Council](#) (DivCo) approved, for campus review in fall 2019, proposed revisions to the membership of the Library and Scholarly Communications committee. DivCo also approved the proposal to establish a distance education version of UC Merced Extension's existing [Teacher Preparation Program](#).