

Division Council (DivCo)
Minutes of Meeting
December 15, 2016

Pursuant to call, the Division Council met at 12:00 p.m. on December 15, 2016 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Susan Amussen presiding.

Present: Kurt Schnier, Mukesh Singhal, Patti LiWang, David Kelley, Anne Zanzucchi, Rick Dale, David Noelle, and Jayson Beaster-Jones. Peter Vanderschraaf represented the Committee on Rules and Elections and Wei-Chun Chin, the Committee for Diversity and Equity. Ignacio Lopez-Calvo participated by telephone.

I. CHAIR’S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS—CHAIR AMUSSEN

A. Meeting with Chancellor

The Chair and Vice Chair met with the Chancellor on December 8, 2016. Topics of discussion included a process for the Provost’s five year review, models for resourcing the proposed, new General Education program, and establishing an administrative procedure to provide the equivalent of a midcareer appraisal process for deans. The Chair reported that search for the dean of the School of Natural Sciences should be underway at the start of spring semester. CoC is currently identifying a slate of possible faculty representatives.

B. Academic Council Meeting (12/14)

During the December 14, 2016 Academic Council meeting, system feedback on the proposed revisions to APM 015, APM 016, and Senate Bylaw 336 and the draft Presidential Policy on International Activities were discussed. Merced’s comments reflected those of other campuses. In anticipation of the January Regents meeting, Academic Council is preparing a statement in support of the proposed tuition increase and a statement opposing the cap on non-resident undergraduate enrollment; the latter is based on detailed analyses conducted by UCPB. The proposed tuition increase will not affect students with annual family incomes of \$150,000 or less. It was reported that a representative from the governor’s office told the Intersegmental Council of Academic Senates that the state may need to reconsider its multi-year agreement with the UC as state revenues are lower than expected this year.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. The agenda was approved as presented.
- B. DivCo’s response to the VPF regarding revisions to MAPP 6001 (endowed chairs) was approved as presented.

III. CAMPUS REVIEW ITEMS

A. Student Success Definition

Members discussed written comments received from CoR and the School of Engineering Executive Committee in response to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs request for review of a draft definition of student success. UGC and CRE provided oral comments, the former pending submission of the committee’s written response. CAP, CAPRA, D&E, GC and FWAFF appreciated the opportunity to opine, but declined to comment.

Committees highlighted the draft nature of the document, raised questions about the description of UC Merced as a small public research university rather than a young, standard, research university, discussed how much detail should be included in the description of how student success will be assessed, and recommended revisions that define success in terms of accomplishments or contributions (rather than only in terms of engagement in activities on

campus), that reference existing institutional infrastructure related to student success (like program learning outcomes that define the intellectual aspects of student success), that differentiate undergraduate from graduate student success, and that resolve the circularity in first sentence. In general, members recommended clarifying the audiences and uses for the document (beyond accreditation), and desired impact.

Action Items: The Chair will draft and circulate a memo summarizing DivCo's discussion and communicating committee feedback. The Chair will confirm that Graduate Council has no comments, given that the definition is intended to address graduate as well as undergraduate student success.

IV. SYSTEMWIDE REVIEW ITEMS

A. Revisions to Bylaw 182

Members discussed the proposed revisions to Bylaw 182, including comments received from CoR, FWAF, and UGC. CAP, CAPRA, CRE, D&E, and GC appreciated the opportunity to opine, but declined to comment. UGC, GC, and CoR were the lead committees for the review. CoR supported and FWAF endorsed the revisions. UGC found the revisions to be well-justified and productive in providing a system-wide interface for international education, and offered several suggestions for clarifying the policy's scope and function, including with respect to responsibilities of other committees.

Action item: The Chair will draft and circulate a response for review, approval, and transmission to systemwide Senate Chair Chalfant by January 11, 2017.

B. Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) Policy

Members discussed the proposed policy revisions, including D & E's endorsement of the policy. CAP, CAPRA, CRE, CoR, FWAF, GC, and UGC appreciated the opportunity to opine, but declined to comment. CAPRA, GC, and D & E were the lead committees for the review.

Action item: The Chair will draft and circulate a response for review, approval, and transmission to systemwide Senate Chair Chalfant by January 11, 2017.

C. Presidential Nondiscrimination Policy and APM 015

Members discussed the proposed policy revisions, including comments received from CAP and D & E. CAPRA, CRE, CoR, FWAF, GC, UGC, and P & T appreciated the opportunity to opine, but declined to comment. FWAF, D & E, and P & T were the lead committees for the review. CAP endorsed the proposed, revised policy, finding it well-crafted in balancing the protection of free speech, academic freedom, and prevention of harassment in the workplace. D & E endorsed the policy.

Action item: The Chair will draft and circulate a response for review, approval, and transmission to systemwide Senate Chair Chalfant by January 11, 2017.

D. Salary Equity Study Recommendations

Members discussed the draft response to the questions UCAADE posed to better understand individual campus resources and other capabilities for conducting salary equity studies. The response was developed by the chairs of D&E and FWAF, the Vice Provost of the Faculty, and a representative from Institutional Research and Decision Support. Prior to developing the draft response, standing committees and school executive committees were

invited to respond to UCAADE's request. CAP, CAPRA, CRE, CoR, GC, and UGC appreciated the opportunity to opine but declined to comment. Members proposed no revisions to the draft.

Action item: The Chair will transmit the memo to the UCAADE chair by January 5, 2017.

V. LIBRARY WHITE SPACE PAPER

Members discussed LASC's November 8, 2016 endorsement of the UC Merced Library's recommendation to return the west wing of Kolligian to the Library (as made in the UC Merced Library Space White Paper). Members were strongly supportive of the Library's vision for expansion. However, before endorsing the recommendations, members desired additional information regarding the audience(s) for the white paper, linkages between the Library's vision and other campus strategic and space planning initiatives, including 2020, and available details about plans and funds necessary to realize the proposal, for instance, to relocate current occupants of the west wing, or budgeting to support the conversion of first and third floor spaces. CAPRA members noted that the second floor classrooms will need to remain classrooms for the foreseeable future.

Action item: The Chair will draft and circulate a memo for review that communicates DivCo's support for the Library's vision and invites additional information.

VI. COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

- [Academic Blueing & Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA) – Chair Mukesh Singhal
On December 9, 2016, CAPRA gathered input from campus stakeholders on its emerging model for predicting instructional demand at 10,000 students. This information will be used to finalize the model, the results of which are expected to be available early in spring semester. CAPRA is finalizing its hiring recommendations; they will be submitted to the Provost by Tuesday, December 20, 2016. Following recommendations from DivCo, CAPRA has scheduled meetings with the chairs of school executive committees; meeting will include the chairs of GC and UGC.
- [Academic Personnel](#) (CAP) – Chair Ignacio López-Calvo
This fall CAP has received cases that do not address the diversity requirement. It will formally ask the VPF to remind school staff that cases must address contributions to diversity. This spring APO will develop guidelines for addressing contributions to diversity for merit and promotion reviews.
- [Committees](#) (CoC) – Chair Rick Dale
CoC continues to work on critical requests and has made good progress on a number of appointments.
- [Committee on Research](#) (CoR)– Chair David Noelle
CoR is preparing for the SNRI review. The review team is nearly complete, with only a single member pending. At the start of spring semester, CoR will circulate its report on staff support for extramural funding in time for consideration by the Work Force Planning Work Groups. CoR is preparing to initiate its review of a recently submitted proposal for a new ORU.
- [Rules and Elections](#) (CRE) – Member Peter Vanderschraaf
CRE is currently drafting its guidelines for voting rights document. DivCo will be asked to review the draft.
- [Diversity and Equity](#) (D&E) – Member Wei Chun Chin
D & E has asked DivCo to endorse a proposal from the VPF to gather information on the LGBTQ status of new and past faculty hires. UC Merced will be the first campus to collect this information. In partnership

with the VPF and the Provost, this spring D & E will host an expert on student teaching evaluation of minority and female faculty. Two workshops will be offered one for assistant professors, focused on preparing promotion materials, and the second for faculty and administrators who evaluate faculty cases.

- [Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#) (FWAF) – Chair Jayson Beaster-Jones
A number of significant topics were discussed at the December UCAF meeting, including cyber-security and the implementation of FireEye, the re-evaluation of policy that restricts the kinds of institutions from which the UC can accept grants, and the potential implications of the Anti-Semitism Awareness Bill recently passed by the US Senate.
- [Graduate Council](#) (GC) – Chair Ramesh Balasubramaniam
No report.
- [Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC) – Chair Anne Zanzucchi
The chair reported on UC Merced and UCEP's examination of, and positions on, credit by examination and AP credit as means for reducing time to degree as part of the Budget Initiative Framework. In general, credit by examination is rarely used at UC Merced, and at other campuses; UCEP and UGC do not support credit by examination as a means for reducing time to degree because rarely is it an appropriate substitute for an educational experience. Regarding AP credit, analyses conducted by UCOP's Institutional Research and Academic Planning unit revealed potential equity issues for certain populations of students stemming from how AP credits affect post-admission opportunities on campuses. UGC will examine campus policies in this regard. During its December 12, 2016, UGC hosted a productive discussion with the Provost on topics related to enrollment management and academic planning.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- [Academic Council endorsed](#) the University Committee on Faculty Welfare (UCFW) concerns about the recent consolidation of maximum out-of-pocket (MOOP) expenses in UC Care, joined UCFW in requesting a reversal of the consolidation, at least for 2017, until convincing data can be provided regarding the projected cost savings that led to UC's decision to aggregate the MOOP, and asked UC employees who may have left UC Care due to the change in MOOP expenses be permitted to rejoin the plan outside of the open enrollment period.

In an email response to the transmittal, the executive vice president of UC Health stated he had asked the executive director of self- insured plans and to come up with a solution that addresses the senate's concerns and allows the plan to be financially stable. The plan will be shared with the Health Care Task Force at its next meeting.

- [Academic Council endorsed](#) the University Committee on Faculty Welfare's (UCFW) support for ongoing funding for exit surveys of departing UC faculty.
- [Academic Council unanimously endorsed](#) the *Principles in Support of Undocumented Members of the UC Community* with the following statement:

The systemwide Academic Council endorses the University of California Statement of Principles in Support of Undocumented Members of the UC Community, and we join President Napolitano and the UC chancellors in emphasizing the University's ongoing commitment to all members of the UC community. The commitment to protecting privacy, preserving access, and maintaining a welcoming, open culture devoted to learning and engagement is the foundation of higher education and certainly, academic freedom. UC's excellence demands nothing less, and we thank the administration for communicating UC's values clearly and unconditionally, and for restating our commitment to all students, staff, and faculty, and their families.

- [Academic Council approved for distribution](#), to Provost Dorr and the campuses, UCEP's recommendations regarding awarding UC credit for Advanced Placement (AP) exams taken prior to college matriculation, and for applying that credit to UC graduation. UCEP's review of this topic was undertaken as part of the Budget Framework Initiative focused on reviewing alternative means of earning credit that may help reduce time to degree for students.

Attest: Susan Amussen, Chair