# DIVISIONAL COUNCIL Minutes of Meeting March 6, 2018

Pursuant to call, the Divisional Council met at 10:30 a.m. on March 6, 2018 in Room 232 of the Kolligian Library, Vice Chair Kurt Schnier presiding.

Present: Wei-Chun Chin, Tom Hansford, Ignacio López-Calvo, Shawn Newsam, David Noelle, and Anne Zanzucchi. Mike Dawson, Teamrat Ghezzehei, and Sean Malloy participated by phone. CRE Vice Chair, Peter Vanderschraaf, represented CRE and CAPRA member, Kurt Schnier, represented CAPRA.

## I. Vice Chair's Report & Announcements

A. Meeting with Provost (3/5)

The Senate Vice Chair and Provost discussed progress with the implementation of the General Education program.

#### II. Consent Calendar

The agenda was approved as presented.

### III. System Review Item

## A. Proposed Amendment to Senate Bylaw 128, Conflicts of Interest

Members discussed committee comments on the proposed amendment to Senate Bylaw 128. This included D&E's request for clarification regarding the potential consequences of individuals having the ability to determine the extent to which they participate in deliberations once a conflict has been identified and UGC's recommendation that all committees adopt conflict of interest policies. Following a motion, Divisional Council recommended the amendment be adopted with the following revision (underlined, struck) "The member with the potential conflict should consult with their committee chair to discuss whether it may choose to limits their participation up to and including full recusal." Following UGC's recommendation, members also endorsed a motion that Divisional Council send to standing committees a memo encouraging adoption of conflict of interest policies consistent with the new proposed amendment. The memo will reference the 2013 memo from CRE on the topic of conflict of interest policies.

**Actions**: The Chair will transmit the Senate's comments to Senate Chair White by March 14, 2018. The Chair also will draft a memo encouraging committees to adopt COI policies, if they have not done so already.

#### IV. Committee Chairs' Reports

### Undergraduate Council

The UGC Chair reported that UGC has been facilitating discussion with the school executive committees regarding concerns raised in memos to the Senate regarding the ability to implement Spark seminars. Conversations are leading to a recommendation that Spark seminars be offered for variable units. Advantages to this approach might include flexible resource models across the schools. It also provides the opportunity to study the effectiveness of varied delivery models. Ultimately, such a revision to the GE program would require a vote of the faculty. Members inquired about the link between pedagogy and resources devoted to Spark, the outcomes of the discussions with the chairs of school executive committees, and the impact of a two unit Spark seminar on student course taking patterns. The Chair responded that executive committee chairs were interested in pursuing a solution that addressed their resource and pedagogical needs, and that the impact on student enrollment in Spark is difficult to predict. A member urged uniformly reducing the number of units from four to three.

• Graduate Council

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#### ACADEMIC SENATE -MERCED DIVISION

The GC Chair reported that GC is concerned about the impact of the new General Education program on the ability of graduate programs to deliver much needed graduate-level courses. At the upcoming March 16 GC meeting, members will review committee comments and determine next steps for the Bioengineering CCGA proposal, discuss ways of creating effective faculty mentorship - student mentee relationships, and consider the VPDGE's request to revise the MAPP to address graduate student academic appointments. At its February 22 meeting, GC approved the Management in Complex Systems (MCS) CCGA proposal for campus-wide review and the recruitment fellowship rankings.

#### • Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom

The FWAF Chair reported that FWAF discussed the recent incidents of students and non-student "visitors" recording, and sending to various media outlets, classroom discussions, presentations, and lectures without the knowledge or consent of the instructor. Following agreement that a policy is needed, FWAF has drafted language using UCSB's policy on this topic as a guide. FWAF will also draft a separate, but related memo, to the administration emphasizing its hope that the administration will stand by the faculty as they deal with these challenges. FWAF also opined on CRE's revised, Recommended Voting Guidelines for Academic Personnel Cases, and will be drafting a memo.

## Diversity and Equity

The D&E Chair reported that D&E has not met since the last Divisional Council meeting. At its next meeting scheduled for March 7, D&E will be discussing a draft diversity plan for periodic program review. D&E is also in the process of reviewing the draft revised Presidential Policy on Supplement to Military Pay, the draft UCM Carry Forward Policy, the Materials and Biomaterials Science and Engineering (MBSE) CCGA proposal, and the Interim Policy on Expressive Activities and Assembly: Protests, Demonstrations, Non-University Speakers and Posting on Campus and in University Facilities.

## Rules and Elections

The CRE Vice Chair reported that the Senate elections are underway. The ballot opened Monday, March 5, and will close at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 12. The ballot is to elect four members for the Committee on Committees (COC) and two At-Large members for the Divisional Council (DivCo). CRE strongly encourages the faculty to participate by casting their ballot.

### Committee on Research

The CoR Chair reported that CoR is drafting new policy language on the establishment and review of core facilities, as this is absent from current Senate policy on research units. VCORED Traina reported to COR that the campus has hired Deloitte to advise on restructuring the campus contracts and grants process, including staffing levels. This follows CoR's survey on this topic last year. The VCORED hopes to implement changes by July 1, 2018. CoR is also reviewing proposals for the Senate faculty research grants. Finally, CoR is reviewing an array of campus items, including the Bioengineering CCGA proposal and the carry forward policy. Finally, CoR is exploring possibility of having an ad-hoc committee on research computing.

## <u>Committees</u> (CoC) – Chair Tom Hansford

The CoC Chair reported that CoC has appointed Lauren Stark as the new graduate student representative to Graduate Council. She will complete the year. CoC has also appointed two new lecturing faculty representatives to UGC, Meaghan Altman and Yolanda Pineda Vargas. The former replaces a representative who has assumed other responsibilities, the latter a representative who is on leave. CoC continues to complete the leadership slate for the upcoming academic year. Once complete, the committee will turn its attention to filling out committee rosters. To facilitate this work, the committee will meet Monday, March 16.

#### • Academic Personnel

The Chair reported the committee continues to conduct its regular business.

## Academic Planning & Resource Allocation

The Senate Vice Chair reported that CAPRA has consulted with the Senate Chair regarding the resources (compensation and workload) required to teach Spark seminars, a required component of the new GE program. CAPRA has begun to review the 2018-19 faculty FTE requests submitted by deans and School Executive Committees. CAPRA will rank these requests on March 12, and provide its recommendations to the Provost that day. At its next meeting on March 8, CAPRA will receive updates on the Academic Reorganization Working Group from its co-chairs Gregg Camfield and Paul Maglio. CAPRA is currently reviewing an array of campus review items on which the committee is a lead reviewer.

#### V. Informational Items

- 2/22/2018 Academic Council transmits to President Napolitano a <u>statement</u> in support of undocumented students Enrolled at UC
- 2/14/2018 The Assembly of the Academic Senate, on the recommendation of the Academic Council, approved revisions to Senate Regulation 424.A.3 related to the area "d" (laboratory science) requirement for freshman admission.

Attest: Kurt Schnier, Senate Vice Chair