

Committee on Rules and Elections (CRE)

Minutes of the Meeting

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

10 -11:30 AM – KL 326

The Committee for Rules and Elections met at 10:00 AM in Room 326 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Christopher Viney presiding.

I. Chair's Report

Chair Viney reported on two items from the previous DivCo agenda. Revisions to LASC's membership, including a proposal to populate LASC by COC rather than existing committee memberships, have been discussed and Divisional Council is working on next steps. The second item, the draft policy for establishing new schools and colleges, was considered and the Senate Executive Director will be drafting additional guiding advice in consultation with Divisional Council. Finally, town halls have been hosted by the Academic Planning Work Group to gather faculty input about the effort to reach R1 status; Different faculty goals and needs will be considered in this effort, including emphasizing growth as an institution, and as a Hispanic-serving institution with extensive teaching duties.

II. Spring Senate Election Update

The Chair reported that the *Call for Nominations* was sent out Monday January 28 to all Senate members. The Nomination due date was revised, per the Chair's approval, to March 1 to allow for more time to receive nomination forms. The Senate currently has three Committee on Committee nominations and one At-Large nomination, and will need eight and four nominations per category respectively to hold the election per Senate bylaws. Vice Chair Song relayed that the nomination process was extended twice last year, and the CRE Chair asked CoC to help gather nominations.

CRE membership has decreased to three members due to Boaz Ilan's reassignment to other service duties. The Committee on Committees has opined that an additional member for CRE's AY 2018-2019 roster is not needed, as three faculty members are a quorum for all review items.

III. Consent Calendar

- A. [January 9 Meeting Minutes](#)
- B. Matters Arising

Chair Viney will follow up on the item regarding voting conventions and edit the document after consulting with D&E and FWAF.

IV. Campus Review Items

A. [Revised Principles to Guide the Practice of Executive Session](#)

Members discussed Academic Senate's response to previous revisions from CRE and endorsed their proposed revisions.

Action: CRE will send a memo to the Senate Chair regarding CRE's approval of Divisional Council's revisions to the Proposal. The final revised version of the proposal will be posted on the Senate website once the memo has been sent.

B. [Proposed revisions to Master's Degree Requirements](#)

Members reviewed the proposal and found nothing in the text that raised concerns. The proposal sought to reduce the minimum of units of approved courses required for a master's degree by comprehensive exam (Plan II) from 30 to 24 and commensurately, to reduce from 24 to 20 the number of units which must be from graduate-level courses in the 200 series. These changes seek to make Masters degrees at UC Merced consistent with those offered at other UC campuses. A motion was passed to endorse the proposed revisions, with a revision

to the text that emphasizes consideration of individual student needs.

Action: By February 25, CRE will send a memo indicating their approval of the proposed revisions to Master's Degree requirements as general standards for graduate student review. In its approval memo, under Section E, CRE will include some language that specifically details the ways in which examinations can be tailored to both the graduate program and to the individual's research area: "To be determined by examining committee which will take individual's research area into consideration."

C. [Proposed Psychological Science Honors Program](#)

Members discussed the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts' (SSHA) proposal for an Honors program for the Psychological Science undergraduate major. A motion to send CRE's comments on the proposal to Divisional Council was passed, and comments regarding details surrounding teaching load credit for affiliated faculty are to be included in the final proposal.

Action: CRE will draft a memo commenting on the proposal, with specific attention to the 2:1 teaching load that such a program would require of its faculty. Per AS email after meeting, the expected Honors program courses would count towards the teaching loads (2:1) of Psychological Science faculty, and also toward faculty-generated credits.

D. [Draft Charge Enrollment Strategy Committee](#)

Members considered the draft charge to the Enrollment Strategy Committee proposed by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Gregg Camfield. CRE noted that the Enrollment Strategy Committee's efforts will set overall strategy in undergraduate admissions, and raised concerns that there was no mention of transfer students in the text. Secondly, CRE noted that the charge of the Enrollment Strategy Committee was very similar to the now dissolved Enrollment Management Council. CRE asks that the Enrollment Strategy Committee draw on that corpus of documents.

CRE unanimously passed a motion to send comments to DivCo.

Action: CRE will draft a memo to urge Divisional Council to explicitly consider the transfer student population, or have a representative in the committee's membership. CA State new education policy focuses on transfer students, with a stated goal of 2:1 ratio of traditional/transfer undergraduates at the UCs/CSUs. Additionally, the work of the previous iterations of enrollment work groups should be drawn from, to cover more ground.

E. [Proposed Space Planning Documents \(2\)](#)

A motion was passed to have committee members consider the review item, 2 documents on space planning and faculty hiring from the Office of Space Planning to be reviewed concurrently, as a consent calendar item through email. This is due to the fact that deadline for Senate committee comments is March 11th, before the next CRE meeting on March 13th.

Action: CRE will gather member's comments via email and submit them as a memo to Divisional Council by March 11th.

V. **Systemwide Review Items**

A. [Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 336](#)

Members discussed the proposed revision to Senate Bylaw 336 which focuses on the Committee of Privilege and Tenure's handling of disciplinary cases. Specific changes include the schedule by which claimant hearings and decisions are announced and heard by the Office of the Chancellor. CRE requests more information about why the term of 3

years was chosen, and a motion to comment on the memo was passed.

Action: CRE will send comments in the form of a memo to Divisional Council by February 25, 2019.

- B. [Second Review of Policy for Open Access for Theses and Dissertations](#)
Members declined to have CRE opine on this item.

Action: Before February 25th, CRE will send a message to the Senate Chair indicating no comment.

VI. Informational Items

- A. 1/29 – Academic Senate transmitted to the Vice President of Human Resources [a request from UCFW and its Task Force on Investment and Retirement \(TFIR\)](#) for the University to add Roth 403(b) and 457(b) plans as investment options for the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan in the UC Retirement Savings.

VII. Any Other Competent Business

No other business and the meeting adjourned.