

**DIVISIONAL COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 15, 2022**

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**Attendees:** Chair Patti LiWang, Christopher Viney, Peggy O’Day, Martin Hagger, Charlie Eaton, Kevin Mitchell, Michael Scheibner, Holley Moyes, Jason Sexton, David Jennings, Jeff Butler, Jessica Trounstine, and Shilpa Khatri.

**I. Consultation with EVC/Provost Camfield**

EVC/Provost Camfield mentioned that the UAW strike is ongoing and referred Divisional Council members to the various pieces of guidance transmitted by UCOP. EVC/Provost Camfield strongly recommended that faculty consult with their department chairs and review UCOP guidance to answer their questions.

**II. Consultation with LASC Chair DePrano**

LASC Chair DePrano provided the below updates to Divisional Council.

UCOLASC:

- California Digital Library (CDL) update: AVP/Executive Director Waibel reported regarding the collections budget that in fiscal year 20-21, the CDL collections (open access and systemwide publisher agreements) budget was removed from ongoing funding due to an UCOP budget crisis, and since filled from one-time funds.
  - A UCOLASC letter endorsing permanent funding for the CDL was approved by Academic Council and sent to the Provost in April 2022. OP has confirmed one-time funding for CDL shared collections in 22-23; UCOP is actively identifying permanent funds to begin in 2023-24.
- Dryad Repository – Dryad has been named a Generalist Repository Ecosystem Initiative (GREI) repository in a new NIH initiative, which supports and advances multidisciplinary data repositories.
  - The NIH has also announced public data sharing and management requirement changes beginning in 2023.
- CoUL (Council of University Librarians) update
  - Project LEND - an investigation into expanding digital access to UC’s in-copyright print collections - is also moving forward with a Mellon-funded planning grant.
  - Research questions regarding faculty and student needs and requirements for a digitized book lending service, as well as legal implications, will be investigated, and reports presented to UCOLASC.
- Beginning in January 2023, researchers seeking NIH funding must submit a plan outlining how scientific data from research will be managed and shared. Data must be shared as soon as possible. There may be additional requirements imposed by specific NIH Institutes and Centers (ICOs).
- Project Transform – The UC now has 15 transformative agreements. Forty percent of all UC articles eligible for open access (OA).

UC Merced Library and LASC updates:

- Chair DePrano reported that the UC Merced Library successfully filled a vacant staff position so that the Library has expanded weekend and evening hours.
- Chair DePrano reported on the following challenges for the UC Merced Library's budget:
  - \$300,000 cut from Library collections budget AY 21-22
  - Library cut subscriptions for about \$100,000 savings
  - EVC/Provost's office provided \$200,000 one-time funds to fill gap
  - AY 22-23 it is unclear what will happen with \$200,000 collections budget cut
- Chair DePrano briefly summarized LASC's AY 22-23 goals.
- In collaboration with Vice Provost Spitzmueller and UC Merced Library staff, LASC is drafting a white paper on Library resources and necessary functions including collections data, support for data curation, space, staffing, educational enterprise, and graduate needs. One problem with drafting the white paper is that UC Merced has yet to determine its R2 peer and aspirational R1 peers.

**Action:** LASC Chair DePrano will send her presentation slides to Senate Executive Director Paul for distribution to Divisional Council members.

### III. Consultation with Mike Dawson, Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Sustainability (FACS)

Linked on today's agenda were the following pieces of information: FACS website, description of the proposed working group being established by Office of the EVC/Provost, FACS, and Office of Sustainability to operationalize the sustainability commitment in the 2030 Strategic Plan, and a memo from FACS to VCR Wilson inquiring about the climate funding initiatives.

FACS Chair Dawson briefly summarized the proposal to establish a Sustainability Work Group (SWG) to facilitate the development of, and oversee progress on, an updated campus sustainability strategic plan. The charge of the SWG would be to develop an inclusive process for updating the sustainability strategic plan, coordinate the development of strategic plan components to deliver the 2030 sustainability commitment, and oversee the implementation of the plan, including evaluating, tracking and communicating progress on the Sustainability commitment. The SWG membership would include faculty, administrators, and students.

FACS Chair Dawson then asked Divisional Council members for their input on the FACS memo to VCR Wilson. In that memo, FACS asked VCR Wilson for the analyses and data that led to her decision to prioritize the specific centers outlined in her proposal, the specific outcomes to be accomplished, and the short and long-term plans.

FACS Chair Dawson asked Divisional Council for their approval of the SWG structure and support for a more holistic institutional evaluation of opportunities that can be leveraged from the opportunity/awareness generated by the influx of climate funding from the state.

**Action:** Divisional Council members voted to approve the SWG structure. Members requested more time to review FACS' memo to VCR Wilson and consider FACS' request for support for more holistic institutional evaluation of opportunities. This will be handled via email.

**IV. Consent Calendar**

- A. Today's Agenda
- B. November 1 Meeting Minutes

**Action:** The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

**V. Chair's Report – Patti LiWang**

- A. Academic Council Updates
- B. November 10 Meeting with Chancellor Muñoz and EVC/Provost Camfield  
Chair LiWang reported that the Chancellor shared updates with Divisional Council members on the state of the campus.

**VI. Divisional Council Conflict of Interest Policy – At-Large Member Butler**

Prior to this meeting, At-Large member Butler distributed a proposed process for conflicts of interest to Divisional Council members. The process reflects and expands previous discussions on this topic and was drafted after a study of other Senate committee conflict of interest policies.

At-Large member Butler stated that the proposed process would be used only in cases where Divisional Council members may have an actual or perceived conflict of interest. The proposal is that each member of DivCo would submit a conflict of interest statement which would be collected and shared with Divisional Council. Three Divisional Council members would be selected by a two-thirds vote of the whole committee as the editing committee to make decisions on which edits should be incorporated. The document must be approved by a majority of Divisional Council members. The intention is that the final, approved statement would be attached to the memo that records Divisional Council's votes on the proposal under review.

Some members felt that establishing a subcommittee would be cumbersome, so CRE Chair Viney suggested a process by which Divisional Council members could at least be required to acknowledge their actual or potentially perceived conflicts of interest, and for a summary of these acknowledgements to be appended to the memo that records the vote. He also suggested a "hierarchy" of authority (e.g. Senate Chair, Senate Vice-Chair, Parliamentarian, UGC Chair, GC Chair) such that (i) the "highest ranking" person with no conflict of interest can serve as an "editor" with the authorization to add names (with reasons) to the list of people who do have a conflict of interest, and (ii) the "next highest ranking" person can challenge and replace the "editor" if there is cause to question the "editor's conflict of interest status.

**Action:** Divisional Council will continue this discussion.

**VII. Compensation for Senate Service – CoC Chair Hagger**

This topic was not discussed as CoC Chair Hagger had to leave the meeting early.

**VIII. CAPRA Updates – Chair Mitchell**

CAPRA Chair Mitchell stated that Divisional Council was drafting a memo to VCR Wilson regarding 1) working with Senate points of contact for the rapid transmittal of information about the allocation of climate funds and 2) requesting that VCR Wilson provide a draft structure of the proposed climate institute and centers.

Earlier today, VCR Wilson transmitted a draft proposal on the proposed climate institute and centers to CoR Chair Sexton. That proposal was then shared with CAPRA Chair Mitchell and Senate Executive Director Paul. Senate Executive Director Paul forwarded the proposal to Divisional Council.

CAPRA Chair Mitchell suggested he and other Divisional Council members revise the memo they began working on given that VCR Wilson has shared a proposal. VCR Wilson's proposal will be discussed in the November 16 CoR meeting and will also be discussed by CAPRA.

**Action:** CAPRA Chair Mitchell will revise the draft memo to VCR Wilson and will send an updated version to Senate Executive Director Paul. The updated memo will be reviewed via email by Divisional Council as a Consent Calendar item.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Attest: Patti LiWang, Senate Chair