

Admissions and Financial Aid Committee (AFAC)**AGENDA****Tuesday, September 19, 2023****10:30am – 12:00pm****Zoom Information:**<https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/85938494592>**Meeting ID:** 859 3849 4592**One tap mobile:** +16699006833,,85938494592# US (San Jose)Documents available in [box](#)[AFAC Duties](#)**I. Introductions – Name, Affiliation and Pronouns – All - 10:30am – 10:35am****II. Chair’s Report – Chair Eaton – 10:35am – 10:45am**

- A. August 31 Area C Work Group Meeting
- B. September 7 Divisional Council Meeting
- C. July 5 Student Academic Activity Tracking Work Group Meeting with Chief Information Officer (CIO) Nick Dugan, Office of Information Technology (OIT) Director Avi Badwal, Financial Aid Director Ron Radney, and Financial Aid Deputy Director Heather Nardello.
- D. [AY 22-23 Annual Report](#)

III. Consent Calendar – Chair Eaton – 10:45am – 10:50am

- A. The Agenda

IV. Discussion of AFAC Priorities – Chair Eaton – 10:50am – 11:05am

Chair Eaton asks committee members the following questions:

- A. Would committee members like to continue prioritizing any of our goals from last year?
- B. Should we add any new goals?
- C. How should the committee work on UCM management’s desire to increase enrollment and the new major proposal hunger games?
- D. Would anyone like to serve as a point person for these goals?

AY 22-23 priorities:

- 1. Cancel institutional student debts owed to UCM by students and not covered by Biden executive action.
- 2. Help UCM employees and students use expanded public service loan forgiveness and executive action.
- 3. Secure ongoing funds from UC system and the state to continue debt-free enrollment growth.
- 4. Assure UC Merced implementation and UC-wide Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) implementation of a new ethnic studies A-H admissions

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requirement for high school and transfer students.

5. Partner with the Degree Completion Program on financial aid solutions for re-enrolling stop-out students, including those previously barred from enrollment by institutional debts.

Requested Action: Members discuss and determine which priorities to prioritize and recommend additional priorities.

V. Proposed Amendment to AFAC Bylaws – Chair Eaton – 11:05am – 11:15am

Given that AFAC has been asked to review master’s degree proposals and undergraduate/graduate hybrid degree programs from a financial aid perspective, Chair Eaton would like to propose an amendment to AFAC’s Bylaws to include in the committee’s membership a student representative appointed by the Graduate Student Association (GSA).

The proposed amendment is shown in tracked changes, [here](#).
A clean version of the proposed amendment is available [here](#).

Requested Action: Voting members vote to endorse the proposed amendment to the AFAC Bylaws to include in its membership a student member appointed by GSA.

VI. Institutional Student Debts – Chair Eaton and Guests Interim Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Schnier, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (VCSA) Nies, and Registrar Webb – 11:15am – 11:45am

On January 24, 2023, AFAC transmitted a [memo](#) to the Senate Chair with a request that Divisional Council endorse recommendations to UC Merced leadership for reducing adverse student impacts and administrative burdens associated with the new Academic Activity Policy.

On September 6, 2023, Chair Eaton received an enrollment update and consulted with Registrar Webb regarding the drop in Dropped for Non-payment (DNFP) from the estimated 170 to 102 students. Registrar Webb confirmed that a policy change was made to lock student registration on day 2 of instruction instead of dropping the student. Page 6 of the memo linked above includes AFAC’s concerns regarding DNFP prior to the policy change.

Today, Chair Eaton, along with CFO Schnier, VCSA Nies, and Registrar Webb will further discuss the policy and institutional student debts.

No Requested Action.

VII. Transfer Requirements for the Data Science Majors – Chair Eaton – 11:45am – 11:55am

In AY 22-23, Management of Complex Systems Professor Alexander Petersen proposed a new B.A. in Data Science and Analytics, and Applied Mathematics Professor Suzanne Sindi proposed a new B.S. and Minor in Data Science and Computing.

Professor Alexander Petersen’s memo regarding transfer requirements for the B.A. in Data Science and Analytics is available [here](#). DivCo’s May 19, 2023 comments on the proposed major are available [here](#) (AFAC’s comments are available on page 7).

Professor Suzanne Sindi’s memo regarding transfer requirements for the B.S. and Minor in Data Science and Computing is available [here](#). DivCo’s May 19, 2023 comments on the proposed major and minor are available [here](#) (AFAC’s comments are available on page 8).

Requested Action: Members review the transfer requirements for the B.A. in Data Science and Analytics and the B.S. and Minor in Data Science and Computing. If there are no comments, voting members vote to approve the transfer requirements for both proposed majors.

VIII. Any Other Business – 11:55am – 12:00pm

- IX. Informational Items** will be regularly uploaded on the “Informational Items” AFAC Box Folder [here](#).