

COMMITTEE ON FACULTY WELFARE & ACADEMIC FREEDOM (FWAF)**AGENDA****Thursday, February 15, 2024****11:30am – 1:00pm****ADMIN 245****I. Chair's Report – Jayson Beaster-Jones [11:30am – 11:40am]**A. [DivCo Updates](#) (January 22 and February 12)**II. Consent Calendar [11:40am – 11:40am]**

A. Today's agenda

B. [January 18 draft Meeting Minutes](#)**Requested Action:** Approval of the Consent Calendar**III. [MCS Instructional Budget Memo](#) – All [11:40am-11:50am]**

The Management of Complex Systems (MCS) Department sent a memo to Senate leadership regarding challenges with the implementation of the new instructional budget model. Both FWAF and CAPRA have been asked to review the memo and respond.

On November 22 CAPRA issued a response, available [here](#).

Requested Action: Members to approve response memo, available [here](#).**IV. Systemwide Updates [11:50am – 12:05pm]**A. [UCFW Updates](#) (February 9) – Jayson Beaster-JonesB. [UCAF Updates](#) (February 14) – David Jennings**V. [Academic Senate Awards Call](#) – Chair Beaster-Jones [12:05pm – 12:15pm]**

The Call for Nominations for the [Senate Award for Excellence in Faculty Mentorship](#) will be sent out soon.

Requested Action: Establish Awards Subcommittee.**VI. SSHA Hiring – All [12:15pm-12:25pm]**

At FWAF's December 13 meeting, members discussed SSHA's restructuring and its potential connection to staff hiring within the School. Chair Beaster-Jones noted that in a conversation with Interim EVC/P Zatz, she said she had approved of seven lines for SSHA already, however none of them have been hired yet.

VII. Systemwide Review Items – Chair Beaster-Jones [12:25pm – 12:35pm]**A. [Proposed UC Regents Policy on Use of University Administrative Websites](#)**

Background: This policy first appeared in another form as [Item J3](#) on the January 24, 2024 agenda of the joint meeting of the Regents Academic and Students Affairs Committee and the Compliance Audit Committee as an action item for adoption by the full Board. The Academic Council [expressed concerns](#) about the process leading to this proposed action and requested an opportunity for an expedited Senate review of the policy in time for discussion at the Regents' March 19-20 meeting. Please also see the Academic Council's June 2022 [Recommendations for Department Political Statements](#).

Academic Council will hold a special meeting in March to discuss this policy and has requested the UC Divisions' comments by March 8, 2024.

Chair Beaster-Jones and Member Jennings agreed to serve as lead reviewers via email.

Requested Action: Members to approve [draft FWAF response](#).

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm, Thursday, February 22, 2024**.

B. [Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-50: Controlled Substances Use in Research and Teaching](#)

Key revisions:

- Clarify in detail the scope of duties of the Campus Controlled Substances Programs and the Controlled Substances Program Officers;
- Define the Campus Designation form of Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Registration and address requirements applicable to DEA Registrations other than Campus Designation, such as individual schedule I DEA Registrations;
- Provide more specific procedures regarding Powers of Attorney;
- Provide additional guidance as to import, export, interstate and intrastate use, transfer, and transport of Controlled Substances, as well as Controlled Substances Analogues and DEA-exempt chemical preparations; and
- Establish responsible units and individuals for patient care and clinical Controlled Substances Program.

FWAF is a lead reviewer.

Member Dodson agreed to serve as a lead reviewer.

Requested Action: Member Dodson's comments will be circulated via email by Monday, February 19 and will serve as the basis for FWAF's official response.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm on Monday, February 26, 2024**.

VIII. Campus Wide Review Items – Chair Beaster-Jones [12:35pm-12:55pm]**A. [Proposal for the Establishment of a Psychology B.S. program and Proposed Amendments to the Psychology B.A. program](#)**

The Psychology B.S. program proposal and the proposed amendments to the existing Psychology B.A. program are available on pp. 3-63. They are preceded by letters from the SSHA Dean and the SSHA Curriculum Committee, and followed by support letters from the following departments:

- Applied Mathematics – p. 64
- Biology – p. 65
- Chemistry and Biochemistry – pp. 66-68
- Cognitive & Information Sciences – pp. 69
- Computer Science & Engineering – pp. 70-78
- Economics – pp.79
- Global Arts, Media, and Writing Studies – pp. 80
- Management of Complex Systems pp. 81-83
- Molecular and Cell Biology – p. 84
- Physics – p. 85
- Political Sciences – p. 86-88
- Public Health – p. 89

Requested Action: FWAF to decide whether to opine. If opining, assign a lead reviewer. Lead reviewer’s comments will be circulated via email by Monday, February 19 and will serve as the basis for FWAF’s official response.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm on Friday, February 23, 2024.**

B. [Policy on Transmission of Documents to the University Archive](#)

The proposed policy codifies instructions currently present in the UC Records Retention Schedule regarding the transferring of relevant campus records to the University Archives. The policy applies to UCM employees who handle administrative records, and all inactive records documenting the University’s decision-making processes, the functions of the University, and the essential cultural history of the campus, such as administrative records, general publications, and records concerning student organizations.

Requested Action: FWAF to decide whether to opine. If opining, assign a lead reviewer. Lead reviewer’s comments will be circulated via email by Friday, February 23 and will serve as the basis for FWAF’s official response.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm, Friday, March 1, 2024.**

C. [Interim Implementing Procedures for Abusive Conduct in the Workplace](#)

The Campus Implementing Procedures are intended to implement and supplement the [University of California Policy on Abusive Conduct in the Workplace](#) (“Abusive Conduct Policy” or “UC Policy”), which became effective January 1, 2023. The systemwide Abusive Conduct Policy and the CIP replace UC Merced’s previous *Policy on Prohibition of Abusive Conduct and Acts of Violence by University Employees and Non-Affiliates*, which was rescinded on January 1, 2023. All campuses are required to develop procedures and supplementary information to support the implementation of the Abusive Conduct Policy (see Abusive Conduct Policy, Section IV.A)

Key Aspects of the CIP:

- Incorporates all definitions from the systemwide UC Policy (CIP, Section III)
- Contains specific provisions for the immediate reporting of emergencies or acts or threats of violence, similar to the campus's previous *Policy on Prohibition of Abusive Conduct and Acts of Violence by University Employees and Non-Affiliates*. (CIP, Section IV.A & B)
- Explains how to report abusive conduct of a non-violent or non-threatening nature – e.g., either to the reporter's supervisor, manager or administrator, or directly to Human Resources (HR) or the Academic Personnel Office (APO). Direct links to responsible offices are provided. (CIP, Section IV.D, Section IV.C.1)
- Outlines the responsibilities of the supervisor, manager or administrator, or HR or APO, once a report of abusive conduct is received. (CIP, Section IV.C.2 & 3; Section IV.E – Initial Assessments)
- Outlines the responsibilities of HR or APO to refer to OPHD, all SVSH-related complaints or complaints based on one or more protected categories as outlined in the University's *Discrimination, Harassment and Affirmative Action in the Workplace* policy (CIP, Section IV.G)
- Outlines the responsibilities of HR or APO to refer reports of suspected improper governmental activity or alleged retaliation under the University's Whistleblower or Whistleblower Protection policies to the campus's Locally Designated Official. (CIP, Section IV.F)
- Outlines the responsibilities of HR or APO regarding communication with the complainant after the initial assessment of a report of abusive conduct. (CIP, Section IV.C.3)
- If there is a formal investigation, the CIP refers to UC Policy provisions that contain detailed requirements. The CIP also outlines some of the key provisions from UC Policy (CIP, Section IV.H)
- Explains that the complainant and respondent will be informed once a formal investigation is completed and whether or not a violation of the UC Policy has occurred. Actions taken to resolve the complaint, if any, that are directly related to the complainant, such as a no-contact directive, will be shared with the complainant. Per UC policies protecting individuals' privacy, the complainant may be notified generally that the matter has been referred for appropriate administrative action but will not be informed of the details of the recommended action without the respondent's consent. (CIP, Section IV.H; Abusive Conduct Policy, Section V.F.2.b.9)
- Explains the ability of employees to file grievances or complaints under established University policies and procedures, including Academic Personnel Manual (APM) 016 and the campus MAPP 016. Among other things, in the case of Senate faculty, APM 016/MAPP 016 procedures shall govern. (CIP, Section IV.I)

Requested Action: FWAF to decide whether to opine. If opining, assign a lead reviewer. Lead reviewer's comments will be circulated via email by Friday, February 23 and will serve as the basis for FWAF's official response.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm, Friday, March 1, 2024.**

D. [Proposal for the Establishment of a Management of Innovation, Sustainability, and](#)

This agenda may contain confidential and privileged material for the sole use of FWAF Members.

[Technology \(MIST\) B.A. Degree Program](#)

Materials for the proposal are hyperlinked below.

- [Proposal](#)
- [Addendum](#) (Summary of updates applied to the proposal on Jan 31, 2024)
- [SOE EC Vice Chair Muñoz Support Letter](#)
[SOE Dean Goel Support Letter](#)

Requested Action: FWAF to decide whether to opine. If opining, assign a lead reviewer. Lead reviewer's comments will be circulated via email by Friday, March 8 and will serve as the basis for FWAF's official response.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm, Friday, March 15, 2024.**

E. [Proposal from the School of Natural Sciences for the Establishment of a Biochemistry B.S. Degree Program](#)

Requested Action: FWAF to decide whether to opine. If opining, assign a lead reviewer. Lead reviewer's comments will be circulated via email by Friday, March 8 and will serve as the basis for FWAF's official response.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm, Friday, March 15, 2024.**

F. [Proposal from the School of Natural Sciences for the Establishment of an Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology \(EECB\) B.S. Degree Program](#)

Requested Action: FWAF to decide whether to opine. If opining, assign a lead reviewer. Lead reviewer's comments will be circulated via email by Friday, March 15 and will serve as the basis for FWAF's official response.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **5:00 pm, Friday, March 22, 2024.**

IX. Other Business [12:55pm-1:00pm]