

## COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ELECTIONS (CRE)

### AGENDA

Monday, May 5, 2025

1:00pm – 2:20pm

ZOOM

#### I. Consent Calendar {1:00-1:05pm}

- A. Today's Agenda
- B. [April 21 Meeting Minutes](#)

**Requested Action:** Approval of the Consent Calendar.

#### II. Chair's Report – Jeff Yoshimi {1:05-1:20pm}

- A. Updates from [Divisional Council](#) Meeting (April 22)
- B. Upcoming:
  - Town Hall: May 7 from 2:30-3:30pm in ADMIN 306
  - [Meeting of the Division](#): May 7 from 3:30-5:00pm in ADMIN 306

#### III. Reminder: Review of the Merced Division Bylaws and Regulations – Chair Yoshimi {1:20-1:30pm}

At the January 27, 2025 CRE meeting, members agreed to review the UCM Bylaws and Regulations per item B.1. of the [CRE Duties](#).

Following the meeting, [assignments](#) were distributed to CRE members via email. CRE members were to review their assigned sections of the Merced Division Bylaws and Regulations and propose any amendments in tracked changes to the following Word documents:

- [Bylaws of the Merced Division](#)
- [Regulations of the Merced Division](#)

**Requested Action:** Members to continue their reviews of the Merced Division Bylaws and Regulations during the summer.

#### IV. [Memo from the Undergraduate Council \(UGC\): Non-Senate Faculty Voting Rights on Academic Senate Committees](#) – Chair Yoshimi {1:30-1:45pm}

On April 11, 2025, UGC issued a memo to CRE seeking clarification on non-Senate faculty voting rights on Academic Senate committees. In reviewing Systemwide Senate Bylaw 35, which governs membership and rights within Senate committees, UGC acknowledges that non-Senate members do not currently possess voting rights on Senate Committees. However, UGC would like to seek further clarification on the following highlighted statement from [Systemwide Senate Bylaw 35](#):

##### 35. Membership of Committees

2. Only members of the Academic Senate may vote in Senate agencies and their committees when those agencies or committees are taking final action on any matter for the Academic Senate, or giving advice to University officers or other non-Senate agencies in the name of the Senate.

Persons other than Senate members may be given the right to vote on other questions, such as those that involve only recommendations to other Senate agencies, but only by explicit Bylaw provisions. [See [Legislative Ruling 12.75](#)]

UGC seeks clarification on whether it is possible to amend the Merced Divisional Bylaws to include language that would grant non-Senate faculty voting rights on undergraduate student-related issues. Currently, the Merced Division [Bylaw Part I. Title II. Membership](#) does not include provisions for non-Senate faculty to vote on such matters, therefore, UGC is requesting a ruling.

If granting voting rights to non-Senate members is not feasible, UGC wonders if it would be possible to amend the Divisional Bylaws to add an additional Unit 18 Lecturer or ex-officio, non-voting member to represent the interests of undergraduate students. One Unit 18 Lecturer currently attends all UGC meetings as an observer.

For more information, please refer to the [email](#) from the Fatima to the UGC Chair, sent on April 2, 2025.

At their April 21, 2025 meeting, CRE members reviewed UGC's request along with supplemental information gathered from other UC campuses regarding non-Senate faculty membership and voting rights. Following the discussion, CRE members requested additional information from some of the UC campuses as well as information pertaining to the Unit 18 Lecturer Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

The supplemental information gathered from other UC campuses regarding non-Senate faculty membership and voting rights is available [here](#). Additions to the document since the April 21, 2025 CRE meeting have been highlighted in [green](#). A summary of the information can be found at the top of the document.

The Unit 18 Lecturer MOU is available [here](#). Relevant Articles from the Unit 18 Lecturer MOU are available [here](#).

On April 25, 2025, on behalf of Chair Yoshimi, the Executive Director sent a request to the Chair of the Systemwide [University Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction \(UCRJ\)](#) seeking clarification on [Systemwide Senate Bylaw 35.C.2](#).

**Requested Action:** Members to review the Systemwide and Divisional Bylaws, the [information gathered from other UC campuses](#) and the [Unit 18 Lecturer MOU](#) and prepare a response to UGC.

V. [Memo from the Committee on Academic Personnel \(CAP\): Bylaws Inquiry](#) – Chair Yoshimi {1:45-2:05pm}

On May 1, 2025, CAP issued a memo to CRE requesting a ruling on the interpretation of the following highlighted statement from the [Merced Division Bylaw Part II.I.1.C](#):

**Part II. Committees. Title 1. Appointment and Term**

- C. No member of the Division holding an administrative title of Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Provost, Vice Provost, Dean, Associate Dean, Director of Organized Research Units, or titles with equivalent levels of administrative responsibility, may serve as a member of a Divisional committee or council (with the exception of membership in the Divisional Assembly), or as a Senate representative of the Merced Division to any taskforce, committee, or agency (except in a

non-voting, ex officio capacity as provided in these Bylaws). Chairs of academic departments or programs, or persons with titles with equivalent levels of administrative responsibility, may serve on Divisional committees or councils, or as a representative of the Merced Division, with the exception of membership on the Committee on Academic Personnel, Reserve Committee on Academic Personnel, and the Committee on Privilege and Tenure. (Am 01 June 15)

CAP seeks clarification on whether graduate groups and graduate programs are considered “programs” and whether graduate group or graduate program chairs are eligible to serve on CAP. CAP would appreciate CRE’s response by Monday, May 12, 2025.

**Requested Action:** Members discuss and prepare a response to CAP.

## VI. Other Business {2:05-2:20pm}

### A. Proposed Amendments to [UCM Senate Regulations II.3.B. Academic Dismissal](#)

Background: On June 21, 2024, the Assembly of the Academic Senate [approved amendments to systemwide Senate Regulations 900 and 902](#), making a shift in terminology from “probation” to “academic notice” as the designation given to undergraduate students not meeting the minimum standards for academic progress as defined in the Regulations. To ensure compliance and alignment with these updated systemwide Regulations, the corresponding Regulation at UCM required a similar amendment. Specifically, amendments to UCM Senate Regulation (SR) Section II.3.A. which pertains to Academic Probation, were proposed to integrate the new terminology. On September 25, 2024, CRE discussed proposed amendments to UCM SR Section II.3.A. and initiated consultation with UGC for feedback. On October 16, 2024, UGC expressed its support for the proposed amendments. Proposed amendments were then approved by Divisional Council on December 2, 2024 and by the Merced Division on December 16, 2024, effective January 26, 2025. The relevant Senate correspondence is available [here](#).

As the language in [UCM Senate Regulations II.3.B. Academic Dismissal](#) uses the term “Academic Probation”, a similar amendment may be required.

**Requested Action:** CRE to discuss and determine if additional amendments to the Senate Regulations are needed.