



Academic Senate

April 2021 Newsletter | senate.ucmerced.edu

Division News:

From the Senate Chair: Spring has arrived, and I hope you enjoyed Spring Break. With more and more of us receiving our vaccinations, we hope the conditions will improve and allow for a future return to campus in Fall 2021. Here's to a return to normal campus life!

I encourage you to attend the annual spring **Meeting of the Division** scheduled to take place **Tuesday, May 4th, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. via Zoom**. At this meeting, next academic year's Senate Chair and Vice Chair and the recipients of the Senate Awards will be announced. Chancellor Muñoz and EVC/Provost Camfield will also be in attendance. We hope you will participate in this final Meeting of the Division for AY 2020-21.

Please remember to respond with your comments on the proposed revisions to the [Senate Bylaws](#). The proposed revisions will be presented for vote by members of the Academic Senate at the May 4 Meeting of the Division.

Best wishes for a productive conclusion to your spring semester.

- Robin DeLugan

Committee Highlights

[The Admissions and Financial Aid Committee](#) (AFAC) completed its review of the Admissions by Exception applications and associated recommendations. AFAC issued its comments on the proposal to establish the Writing Studies major.

[The Committee on Academic Personnel](#) (CAP) commented on the proposed retirement of MAPP leave-related sections, is reviewing other systemwide items, and continues to conduct its usual business of case review.

[The Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA) continues to consult with the EVC/Provost and APAPB on phase III of academic planning as well as strategic planning and the budget. CAPRA commented on the proposed Writing Studies major and the proposed Presidential Policy on Classification of Gifts and Sponsored Awards. The committee is also reviewing the proposed MPH program.

[The Committee on Research](#) (COR) is preparing, in conjunction with the interim VCORED, for the review of the instrumentation grant proposals. CoR commented on the proposed Writing Studies major, and is reviewing the proposed MPH program, the proposed Presidential Policy on Classification of Gifts and Sponsored Awards, and the proposed Presidential Policy on Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation.

[The Committee on Rules and Elections](#) (CRE) has invited campus stakeholders to review proposed revisions to the Senate Bylaws. The revisions will be discussed at the May 4 Meeting of the Merced Division of the Academic Senate.

[The Committee for Diversity and Equity](#) (D&E) discussed how best to incorporate diversity in faculty hiring, in consultation with Associate Vice Provost for the Faculty Valdez. D&E also discussed the best use of the anti-racism Senate funds provided by the Chancellor, opined on the proposal to establish a Master of Data Science and Analytics program, and transmitted a memo on the proposed Universitywide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures.

[The Committee on Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#) (FWAF) discussed the proposal to add a Teaching Professor to CAP in consultation with the Chairs of CoC, CRE, and D&E, and the Vice Chair of CAP. FWAF also discussed the faculty-graduate student conflict resolution infrastructure, consulted with Associate Vice Provost for the Faculty Valdez on consideration of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion efforts in faculty evaluation, consulted with the ECEC Director on ECEC governance and communication channels, and issued its review memo on the proposed Universitywide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures.

[The Graduate Council](#) (GC) finalized its preliminary review of the Proposal for the Master of

Public Health Degree program, and continued its discussions on Graduate Recruitment Fellowships, 4+1 program policy and proposal format, and Fall 2021 planning. GC also consulted with the Registrar on the proposed changes to the recording of student attendance and to the Curriculog course approval system, and with the Dean and the Director of University Extension and Summer Sessions on UC Merced Extension Non-Degree Programs and the policy governing their establishment.

[The Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication](#) (LASC) is very pleased with the new agreement with Elsevier which will contribute greatly to open access publishing of UC research. LASC commented on the proposed MDSA program and is currently reviewing the following campus and systemwide review items: proposed Writing Studies major proposal, proposed Master's in Public Health, the revised Presidential Policy on Native American Cultural Affiliation and Repatriation, and the proposed Presidential Policy of Classification of Gifts and Sponsored Awards. LASC also transmitted a memo to the Senate Chair about the need for Library consultation during the authorship of the program proposals for new academic programs, Schools, and ORUs, that is before the reviewing process for proposals for new academic programs, Schools, and ORUs. This is a follow up to the memo regarding the same topic sent to the Senate Chair last year.

[The Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC) approved 17 requests for new/revised courses and endorsed the proposal for a minor in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies; a proposal from the Registrar Office for the addition of a check box to the course proposals in Curriculog; and the proposed amendments to Systemwide Senate Regulation 610. UGC has responded to GC's request for review of policies related to CatCourses auto-population.

[Divisional Council](#) (DivCo) has discussed a proposal put forth by FWAF to include a Teaching Professor in the CAP membership. A formal request was sent to CRE on March 30 to initiate the relevant Bylaw(s) amendments. LASC Chair DePrano and Librarian Li attended the March 29 DivCo meeting to discuss the process for consulting with the Library in the context of the review of new proposals for academic degree programs.

April Meeting Schedules

AFAC – APR 9
CAP – APR 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
CAPRA – APR 12, 16
CoC – APR 1
CoR – APR 1, 15, 29
CRE - APR 20
D&E – APR 12

Contact the Chair

Questions, concerns, or issues you would like to see addressed? Contact Senate Chair DeLugan at senatechair@ucmerced.edu.

DIVCO – APR 16, 30
FWAF – APR 14, 28
GC – APR 1, 15, 29
LASC – APR 19
UGC – APR 12

ASSEMBLY – APR 14
BOARS – APR 2
CCGA – APR 7
COUNCIL – APR 28
EDIT – APR 19
UCAADE – APR 8
UCACC – APR 22
UCEP – APR 5
UCFW – APR 9
UCOC – APR 27
UCOPE – APR 30
UCPB – APR 6
UCORP – APR 12



Review Items:

A webpage on the UCM Senate website is now available and will be updated regularly. Please click [here](#) to view the items that are currently discussed and reviewed locally and at the systemwide level.



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The University of California, Merced - Academic Senate
5200 N Lake Rd
Merced, CA 95343-5001

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