

Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)
Minutes of Meeting
January 14, 2015

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 9:00 am on January 14, 2015 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Anne Kelley presiding.

Attendees: Anne Kelley, Jan Wallander, Mukesh Singhal, and Marilyn Fogel. Absent: Cristian Ricci, Josh Viers, Daisy Figueroa, and Danielle Bermudez.

I. Chair's Report

Chair Kelley updated CAPRA members on the UCPB meeting held on January 6.

The main topics of discussion included 1) UCRP funding challenges. 2) Self-supporting programs. Some campuses have been converting state programs into self-supporting programs. The problem with self-supporting programs is the lack of suitable oversight of these programs in terms of academics and they are being viewed as convenient revenue streams. 3) Closing the faculty salary gap/remuneration gap. UCOP stated there would be a 3% increase in faculty salaries next year but it is unclear as to how the amount will be distributed. UCPB discussed what type of advice to provide UCOP on this matter. The dilemma is whether to raise salary scales or should both scales and off scale increments be raised?

II. Consent Calendar

ACTION: The November 19 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. Campus Review Items

--revised minor from SSHA to establish a community research and service minor. CAPRA's main comments to SSHA's original proposal last academic year were: 1) teaching assignments and workload and 2) strategic focusing areas. CAPRA members noted that the revised proposal addressed these concerns. While CAPRA still has minor concerns about teaching workload and the distribution of the \$2,000 faculty stipends, the committee endorsed the revised proposal as it believes that this minor is a creative endeavor and

will be beneficial to students in all three schools, especially in light of the campus being granted classification for community engagement by the Carnegie Foundation.

ACTION: CAPRA analyst will draft a memo to be circulated among committee members for review and approval by January 26.

--Graduate Council's proposed revisions for procedures for submitting proposals for graduate groups. CAPRA members' only comment pertained to the statement in the first paragraph that proposals should be written to make the case that the proposed program fits at the mission of UC Merced. The "mission statement" currently available on the UC Merced [website](#) is more of a background and history than a true mission statement. Therefore, CAPRA recommends that the GC revisions document quote the relevant mission to which it's referring, or else eliminate reference to the mission of UC Merced.

ACTION: CAPRA analyst will draft a memo to be circulated among committee members for review and approval at the January 28 meeting.

--ORU Review

VCR Traina recently drafted a policy for the review of ORUs. CAPRA members were unclear as to how the ORU review policy relates to the comprehensive set of policies drafted by the Committee on Research (COR) – and sent to the administration - in AY 13-14 pertaining to the establishment and review of research units, including ORUs. CAPRA requests clarification from the VCR on how his policy aligns with COR's current policy.

ACTION: CAPRA analyst will draft a memo to be circulated among committee members for review and approval at the January 28 meeting.

--Establishment of Centers

The Provost/EVC recently drafted a policy on the establishment of centers. CAPRA members had two main concerns with two components of the procedures:

First, regarding the principle that “centers should contribute to the teaching, research and outreach missions of the campus, School, and/or Unit faculties”, centers should not have to contribute to each of these missions, as centers can be formed for only one purpose. CAPRA members suggested that the first “and” be replaced by “and/or”.

Second, with regard to the principle that the Provost/EVC makes a decision on the reappointment of center directors, what is the mechanism for determining reappointment or removal?

ACTION: CAPRA analyst will draft a memo to be circulated among committee members for review and approval at the January 28 meeting.

CAPRA members then discussed the memo it sent to the Provost/EVC on November 21, 2014, requesting the release of disciplinary FTE lines so the campus can begin preparing for next year’s faculty hires. CAPRA members noted that their individual schools are also discussing this issue and there is confusion over how to plan for “strategic hires”. Faculty members are asking for the formula of disciplinary versus strategic hires. CAPRA members suggested that the Provost/EVC be invited to a future CAPRA meeting to provide updates on the strategic academic focusing initiative and whether he would release a subset of disciplinary FTE lines. The CAPRA chair also suggested sending a reminder to the Provost/EVC on CAPRA’s prior request.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Attest:

Anne Kelley, Chair

Minutes prepared by:

Simrin Takhar, Senate Analyst