

Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)**Minutes of Meeting****January 17, 2023**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 12:30 pm on January 17, 2023 in via Zoom. Chair Kevin Mitchell presiding.

I. Chair's Report – *Kevin Mitchell***A. UCPB meeting January 3**

- Discussion of attestations for students and faculty. If faculty or a student withheld labor during the strike, they are asked to sign the attestation form. CAPRA Chair Mitchell reminded committee members that it is a violation of federal law to pay an individual on a federal grant if they did not work. The university will very likely be audited so it is critical that faculty follow the law for federal grants.
- UCPB established a small working group (of which CAPRA Chair Mitchell is a member) to determine the financial implications of the strike for the university. There will be no support from UCOP for GSRs and no funding for backfilling NSF or NIH grants. CAPRA Chair Mitchell did add that pre-tenure faculty may be an exception. Pre-tenure faculty were apparently promised, in their start up packages, a certain amount of GSR support and there are discussions to increase start up funds to honor this promise. However, this is not yet confirmed.

A CAPRA member stated that faculty are very concerned about how they will pay their post docs and gradate students this semester given that faculty planned for them earlier this academic year before the strike began. VP Spitzmueller mentioned that the financial impact on the university will be significant and one area that may be examined is limited support for longer term graduate students, i.e. those in their 7th and 8th years and beyond. CAPRA Chair Mitchell stated that the number of graduate students admitted in the fall will be smaller. A CAPRA member pointed out that the committee discussed in the fall semester how best to distribute information to the campus about university resources. She suggested that CAPRA could work with Interim VC/CFO Schnier on projected costs of the strike on the institution and the kind of decisions that could mitigate those costs.

- Climate funds. CAPRA Chair Mitchell stated that UC Merced appears to be in a better position in terms of shared governance for deciding how to allocate the funds than UC Riverside.
- The Governor released his initial budget for the state which includes the 5% increase for the UC that was previously discussed. There likely will be enough funding for the 4.5% faculty raise. However, it is unclear if the increase will be made to faculty base salary or to the off scale component. UCPB is advocating for faculty raises to be implemented on July 1 consistent with other UC employee raises rather than later in the year but there has not been traction with the administration.

II. Consent Calendar**A. Today's agenda****B. December 13 draft meeting minutes**

Action: the Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

III. Centers Policy

At the December 13 CAPRA meeting, the committee agreed to submit a memo to CoR with specific, requested revisions to the proposed policy on the establishment and review of Centers. CAPRA's previous memo on the proposed Centers policy was linked on today's agenda. CAPRA Vice Chair Almeida will take the lead on drafting the memo to CoR.

CAPRA Chair Mitchell stated that the proposed Centers policy needs to clarify between different types of Centers, specifically those that are funded with campus resources and those that are funded by faculty grants. Senate oversight is needed for Centers funded by the campus but should not be required for those funded by grants.

Action: CAPRA Vice Chair Almeida will share a draft memo addressed to CoR articulating specific revisions to the proposed Centers policy for CAPRA's review at the next meeting.

IV. Consultation with EVC/Provost Camfield

- A. EVC/Provost's December 7 response to the November 21 DivCo memo on coverage of leaves in departments. The memo and response were linked on today's agenda.

EVC/Provost Camfield informed CAPRA members that per his response, he agreed that the campus needs a process for funding leaves. He will soon be sending a communication to the campus on the budget. EVC/Provost Camfield added that he wants items like leaves to be regularized in the campus budget call. In addition to the leaves described in DivCo's memo, EVC/Provost Camfield mentioned FMLA and irregular sabbaticals that also need to be accounted for and regularized in the campus budget call. He has asked the School deans to draft a proposal for what it would take, on a per faculty FTE basis, to cover the costs of leaves. Based on their feedback, together with the needs in other divisions, EVC/Provost Camfield will submit a budget request to fund the costs. He reminded CAPRA members that when items do not get funded under the campus budget call, they do not disappear, rather, they get placed in a queue. He stated that he asked Senate Chair LiWang and Senate Executive Director Paul to submit a budget request for the cost of course releases.

A CAPRA member suggested that the campus should publicize a list of faculty service opportunities that comes with stipends and/or course releases. EVC/Provost Camfield replied that he will look into that, however, he reminded CAPRA members that service cannot be "stipended". Faculty who do service can, however, receive compensation for lost research time but this is not a stipend.

- B. Financial impact of the strike

After examining his budget, EVC/Provost Camfield realized he is able to cover the gaps for GSRs for this semester only for assistant professors. This is his first priority. EVC/Provost Camfield heard UC President Drake mention using UCOP funds to assist the campuses that were the most significantly harmed by the strike. Merced is one of those campuses. However, EVC/Provost Camfield stated there are no details about the amount of funding that President Drake was considering or the mechanism for allocating it. If the funding does come from UCOP, EVC/Provost Camfield wants CAPRA's advice on allocating it. He strongly suggests investing the money into the research mission and not funding TAs.

A CAPRA member suggested compensation for faculty who had to do extra work while their TAs were on strike. She suggested that those faculty could complete a form that attests to their extra labor during the strike and the university could provide funds to their incidentals or research account. EVC/Provost Camfield viewed this idea positively and invited CAPRA to draft a proposal.

A CAPRA member pointed out to the EVC/Provost that the new post doc agreement will have a huge impact on faculty so any funding that would help faculty cover the gap for post docs' pay would be very well received. Supporting GSRs is also a big concern for faculty. EVC/Provost Camfield agreed and stated this is why he is focusing on GSRs for this semester rather than TAs as the former work into the summer. Assuming the agreement is implemented on April 1, the university would only have to help cover the cost of TAs for a few weeks. CAPRA's GSA representative stated that funding would be beneficial for graduate student summer research, given that summer is when faculty conduct a lot of research.

EVC/Provost Camfield acknowledged the need to plan for the financial implications of the strike and requested both CAPRA and DivCo's input, with the latter being the main committee he will work with. He explained that he does not want to create a new committee. He will ask VP Spitzmueller to collect the administration's information and parameters and share with CAPRA and DivCo. EVC/Provost Camfield also plans to speak with the graduate group chairs about graduate student enrollment. He also mentioned that Interim VC/CFO Schnier is working on ratios with respect to Unit 18 lecturers and Senate faculty.

V. Campus Review Item

- A. Proposal to create a Department of Electrical Engineering in the School of Engineering
The proposal documents and the relevant policy were linked on today's agenda.

CAPRA Chair Mitchell asked for a volunteer lead reviewer.

Action: The CAPRA Chair and analyst will follow up with the committee members via email to identify a lead reviewer as none was forthcoming in today's meeting.

VI. Other Business

- A. Interim VC/CFO Schnier's request for ex-officio membership on CAPRA.

CAPRA members discussed Interim VC/CFO Schnier's request and reviewed the equivalent committee memberships at other UC campuses.

CAPRA members agreed that instead of proposing a change to the bylaws to grant ex-officio membership to Interim VC/CFO Schnier, the committee would extend a standing invitation to Interim VC/CFO Schnier to attend all CAPRA meetings with the exception of executive sessions.

Action: The committee analyst will communicate this decision to Interim VC/CFO Schnier after today's meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Attest: Kevin Mitchell, CAPRA chair