

**Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**October 13, 2020**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 9:00 am on October 13, 2020, via Zoom. Chair Patricia LiWang presiding.

- I. Executive Session – ***voting members only***  
No minutes were taken during executive session.
  
- II. Systemwide Proposed Curtailment Plan for 2020-21

CAPRA members pointed out that the plan is brief and vague, containing no details about how the tiers of faculty are defined. The proposal does not specify whether a definition of the tiers will be imposed by systemwide or left up to the individual campuses. CAPRA members found the plan difficult to evaluate without having information on the other options that systemwide may have considered. It is also unclear whether certain employees will be forced to take more than 5 curtailment days.

CAPRA members agreed to raise the following points in their response to the Senate Chair:

- campus shut downs on curtailment days will negatively affect faculty research
- more information is needed about the tiers and how they will function
- which decisions on curtailment will be made at the systemwide level and which will be made by individual campuses
- how would the curtailment plan affect retirement benefits?
- does the reduction in pay affect faculty's summer ninth's baseline?
- what is the difference between this curtailment plan and the furlough plan the UC system imposed in 2009?
- this plan will make faculty retention difficult. The campus has invested considerable resources into faculty's success but some faculty may leave to pursue other opportunities.

APAPB Schnier agreed that the plan is nebulous. He stated that the word "curtailment" was strategically chosen over "furloughs" to avoid the situation that occurred in 2009 when faculty were able to use their grants to buy out furlough days.

**Action:** Committee analyst will distribute a draft memo to CAPRA members for review and approval. CAPRA's comments are due to the Senate Chair by Wednesday, October 21.

- III. Chair's Report – *Patti LiWang*
- A. Updates from October 6 Joint Council meeting  
One of the main topics of discussion was the necessary campus expenditures specifically for technology in classrooms.
- B. Updates from October 6 UCPB meeting
- i. The UC system wants to learn from, and not repeat, the difficulties of the 2009 imposed furloughs. With regard to the budget, some UC campuses were significantly impacted by the pandemic while other campuses have not suffered as much. The campuses that were not as negatively impacted are pushing back on the proposed pay cuts, since the money that is saved would likely not go to the campuses who need it the most.
  - ii. UCSD has generated a model to address climate that they would like to bring to all the UC campuses. Chair LiWang acknowledged that UCM adopted Professor Roger Bales's climate change resolution in the last academic year.
- C. Updates from October 9 Divisional Council meeting
- i. One of the main topics of discussion was the administration's negotiations with an external vendor to provide on-campus child care. Faculty are dismayed by the lack of consultation with faculty, staff, student, and post doc parents and lack of notification to the ECEC Advisory Council. Faculty are concerned about whether the current ECEC teachers will be employed under the potential, new, privatized arrangement. A CAPRA member stated that he learned about the RFP from the EVC/Provost in another meeting. The EVC/Provost's rationale for the lack of consultation is that the negotiations are a budget and finance issue. Another CAPRA member pointed out that the campus tried in 2015 to privatize the ECEC but stopped due to faculty opposition. Their main concern, as it remains now, is the pay, benefits, and protection of the current ECEC teachers. Faculty are requesting from the administration an explanation of the negotiations and a rationale of why the process was not transparent. A CAPRA member pointed out that local schools are opening and it is unclear why the ECEC cannot also reopen. FWAf will be sending a memo to the administration.
  - ii. Divisional Council discussed the approval process for Hyflex courses. GC and UGC's proposal is that those two committees approve these courses while some Divisional Council members stated that department chairs should have approval authority.
- IV. Consultation with Senate Vice Chair – *LeRoy Westerling*
- A. EVC/Provost updates  
Senate Vice Chair Westerling reported that to try to ameliorate faculty's challenges in conducting research during the pandemic, the EVC/Provost authorized the interim VCORED to establish a pool of money at the campus level. Faculty can use those funds for items such as pre-award spending authorization.

- V. Consent Calendar
- A. Today's agenda
  - B. Draft September 29 meeting minutes

**Action:** the Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

- VI. Campus Review Item
- Proposal for change of name of academic department: from "Chemistry and Chemical Biology" to "Chemistry and Biochemistry".

CAPRA members discussed the lead reviewer's comments. The committee agreed to endorse the proposal as it does not have major resource implications. But, the committee raised two issues: 1) the timeline of the phase out plan and 2) the lack of consultation with students.

**Action:** the committee analyst will distribute a draft memo to the committee members for review and approval. CAPRA's comments are due to the Senate Chair by Thursday, October 29.

- VII. Consultation with APAPB Schnier and Assistant EVC Martin
- A. Academic planning phase II

CAPRA members were provided with a Box link from the campus academic planning website that contains all School and Division draft academic plans.

Assistant EVC Martin presented to CAPRA the academic planning timeline for AY 2020-21:

- September 25, 2020
  - Schools/Divisions submit essential elements of 5-year plans (strategies aligned to school goals, APWG indices, criteria and measures; school/division priorities indicated by proposed year for implementing strategies) (As of 10/13, Schools and Graduate Division submitted; Library, OUE, need to revise)
- October 12, 2020
  - School plans publicly posted on [apb.ucmerced.edu/academic-planning](http://apb.ucmerced.edu/academic-planning)
  - Academic Planning compiles plans
  - Compiled plans provided to EVC/ Provost and CAPRA for review
- November 9, 2020, EVC/Provost and CAPRA provide to campus:
  - reviews of school/division plans together with
  - proposed funding priorities and campus funding estimate for upcoming years, with caveat that re-evaluated annually given fiscal uncertainties.

A CAPRA member asked what funding priorities to abide by while evaluating the draft academic plans. Assistant EVC Martin responded that CAPRA should consult with the EVC/Provost on determining the funding priorities.

Assistant EVC Martin further explained CAPRA and the EVC/Provost's evaluation during the period of October 13 – November 9:

- Outcomes: CAPRA and EVC/Provost
  - Provide reviews of school/division plans
  - Propose funding priorities and campus funding estimate for upcoming years, with caveat that re-evaluated annually given fiscal uncertainties.
- Focus of reviews
  - In light of the November 9 –Jan 22 collaboration period for schools and divisions, CAPRA and EVC/Provost provide:
  - Perspective on the collective impact of the plans on Indices of Success; areas of emphasis; areas less emphasized, etc.
  - Guidance for sequencing to advance the Indices through resource allocation

CAPRA Chair LiWang pointed out that the EVC/Provost cannot attend CAPRA meetings this semester due to scheduling conflicts and inquired whether CAPRA should consult with APAPB Schnier on funding priorities and evaluation of academic plans. APAPB Schnier replied that CAPRA should consult with the EVC/Provost directly.

**Action:** the committee analyst will contact the EVC/Provost's office to try to schedule his attendance at the October 27 CAPRA meeting.

APAPB Schnier advised CAPRA members to evaluate the plans from a high-level, institutional perspective and to consider which strategies contained in the plans should be prioritized.

**Action:** CAPRA members will review the draft academic plans together with the guiding documents provided by Assistant EVC Martin and APAPB Schnier and discuss them at the October 27 CAPRA meeting. The committee analyst will keep CAPRA members informed on the status of the EVC/Provost's attendance at that meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Attest: Patti LiWang, CAPRA chair