Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)
Minutes of Meeting
November 7, 2019

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 3:00 pm on November 7 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Patricia LiWang presiding.

I. Consultation with EVC/Provost and APAPB

EVC/Provost Camfield and Associate Provost of Academic Planning & Budget Schnier announced they are scheduling academic planning town hall meetings for faculty. They request that CAPRA members attend. CAPRA members agreed that town halls could be a positive forum in which to reiterate CAPRA’s role as being advisory to the EVC/Provost, but autonomous in their review of School plans and subsequent recommendations on resource allocation.

At this point, CAPRA does not yet know how it will examine the data contained in the future School plans. EVC/Provost Camfield responded that CAPRA could reiterate to faculty that this year will be a learning process and not a formulaic process. Faculty should be reassured that CAPRA will take all data into account and make recommendations that will benefit the university as a whole. The committee will make recommendations from an institutional perspective and will not seek to “silo” any School. CAPRA members understand that the word “criteria” can cause worry among the faculty who may feel compelled to contort their academic plans in a certain way. CAPRA just wants to achieve a balance of resources across Schools for diversity in research, and excellence in general education, graduate education, research, and undergraduate teaching, in addition to grant dollars. There is no particular “vision” that is being imposed on faculty. EVC/Camfield pointed out that it is his job and CAPRA’s to harmonize the various School priorities, not antagonize or cause discord between Schools. This will be a multi-year planning process in which all priorities identified by the Schools have value. For example, in year one, a certain area within a School will receive resources, and in years two and three, other areas may be prioritized to receive resources. The goal is not to discard any priority. The hope is for all departments to receive some resources over the whole course of the academic planning process.

CAPRA members could also inform faculty members of the three stages of academic planning in which CAPRA is involved: reviewing Schools’ values and goals, reviewing draft School plans in fall 2020, and reviewing final School plans in spring 2021.

CAPRA members also stated that they will recommend that deans be held to their multi-year plans. Deans must abide by their own plans to allocate resources to particular departments within their Schools. Any modifications to these plans must be in keeping with the Schools’ priorities.
**Action:** APAPB Schnier will email CAPRA members the dates/times of the tentative academic planning town halls. CAPRA members will respond with their availability. Once the dates are confirmed, APAPB Schnier will issue a campus wide announcement.

APAPB Schnier and CAPRA then briefly continued their discussion from the last CAPRA meeting regarding generating joint memos from the EVC/Provost and CAPRA to deans about deadlines for the submission of Schools’ aspirations and goals for academic planning.

**Action:** APAPB Schnier will share draft memos with CAPRA for the committee’s review and approval.

II. Chair’s Report

Chair LiWang updated CAPRA members on the following:

- Division Council meeting October 30
  - The EVC/Provost reported to Division Council that Interim Chancellor Brostrom is analyzing UC funding streams to ensure UC Merced is not being disadvantaged in comparison to other UC campuses. The EVC/Provost and Interim Chancellor are also working on an indirect cost return proposal.
  - If the General Obligation Bond is approved by voters next year, UC Merced would prioritize a new, behavioral health building.

- UCPB meeting November 5
  - The major topics of discussion included UC Riverside’s medical school budgetary issues; systemwide discussion about standardized testing as part of undergraduate admissions; and the idea of cohort tuition whereby the tuition rate for a cohort of students who begin at a UC in a particular year would remain constant until they graduate.

III. Consent Calendar

- Today’s agenda
- October 24 draft meeting minutes

**Action:** Due to time constraints, the Consent Calendar will be approved via email.

IV. Campus Review Items

A. Faculty Advisory Committee on Sustainability

Prior to this meeting, the lead reviewer’s comments were distributed to CAPRA members. CAPRA members suggested edits to the draft memo in order to focus on the proposed committee structure contained in the proposal.
**Action:** Committee analyst will distribute the revised, draft memo to committee members for review and approval. The final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by Friday, November 8.

**B. Proposed B.S. degree in Civil Engineering**

Prior to this meeting, the lead reviewer’s comments were distributed to CAPRA members. CAPRA members agreed with the comments with a few revisions pertaining to clarifying requested space.

**Action:** Committee analyst will distribute the revised, draft memo to committee members for review and approval. The final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by Wednesday, November 13.

**C. Resolution to Address Climate Change**

UCM Professor Roger Bales and his colleagues involved with UCs Carbon Neutrality Initiative, Global Climate Leadership Council, “California Collaborative for Climate Change Solutions”, and “Bending the Curve” initiated discussions with the systemwide Academic Council on a formal statement on UCs role in climate solutions. They have drafted this resolution for approval by the Merced Division before submitting to Academic Council to consider for systemwide adoption.

CAPRA identified a lead reviewer.

**Action:** The lead reviewer’s comments will be discussed at the November 21 CAPRA meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Attest: Patti LiWang, CAPRA chair