

Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)
Minutes of Meeting
December 16, 2024

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 1:30 pm on December 16, 2024, via Zoom. Chair Kara McCloskey presiding.

I. Consultation with EVC/Provost

A. Data on faculty FTE per department and student credit hours taught per department

Per CAPRA's request, EVC/Provost Dumont shared data on student credit hours delivered by Senate faculty and lecturers by department. CAPRA members requested that EVC/Provost Dumont disaggregate MWP and GAMWS. A CAPRA member also pointed out that philosophy and possible electrical engineering course codes have not changed out of CIS so this information could also be separated. Other members mentioned that multiple departments serve multiple majors which should be reflected in the data. Another member requested data on graduate courses.

Action: EVC/Provost Dumont will provide the aforementioned requested data – as well as a breakdown of student credit hours by faculty rank (assistant, associate, and full) – in early spring.

B. Academic Affairs budget overview

EVC/Provost Dumont presented a series of slides containing the following information:

- Unit budgets (without Senate faculty salaries, benefits, and GAEL) under Academic Affairs including the EVC/Provost's office, SoE, SNS, and SSHA. The units included in the EVC/Provost's division are the EVC/Provost's office, APO, DUE, Graduate Division, Library, Assessment, Center for Institutional Effectiveness, and the Academic Senate.
- The amount of Senate faculty salary, Senate faculty vacancy pool, and the Senate faculty vacancy pool contingency fund.
- FY 2025 commitments include items such as Associate Deans, Deans Support, Department Chairs, executive searches, faculty searches, faculty support, lab renovations, postdocs, retention, and staff commitments.
- FY 2025 TAS allocation to the Schools and Graduate Division fellowship funding
- Academic Affairs constitutes approximately 50% of total campus core funds (19900 and 14000) and Senate faculty salaries constitute approximately 23% of total campus core funds
- Future commitments through FY 2030.

EVC/Provost Dumont emphasized the importance of increased enrollment so the campus can continue to grow.

Action: EVC/Provost Dumont will upload her slides into the shared Provost-CAPRA Box folder.

II. Chair's Report – *Chair Kara McCloskey*

A. December 3 University Committee on Planning & Budget meeting

- Discussion of a possible response from UCOP to reaffirm UC values given the recent election.
- The task force working on the academic calendar continues discussing potentially moving all UC campuses to the semester system.
- Another total remuneration study is in progress.
- Discussion of California Senate Bill 791 and Assembly Bill 810 which would require, as part of the hiring process for an appointment to an academic or administrative position, that the applicant disclose any final administrative decision or final judicial decision issued within the last 7 years.
- Discussion about the UC's contributions to UC health plans.
- Discussion about potential research funding vulnerabilities given the incoming administration.
- MOP loan program is to receive an infusion of funds.
- Discussion of the future of doctoral education.
- Currently, the state is forecasting budget cuts of approximately 8%. UC Merced is anticipating and planning for a cut of about 5%.

B. December 16 Divisional Council meeting

- The Chancellor consulted with Divisional Council and emphasized the importance of increased enrollment. Additional revenue from enrollment will help the campus meet its financial obligations and grow.

C. CAPRA membership changes for Spring 2025

1. Chair, Mike Beman
2. Vice Chair, Venkatt Ayyaswamy

III. Consent Calendar

- A. Today's agenda
- B. Draft December 2 meeting minutes

Action: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

IV. Action Items from Shared Governance Retreat

The notes from the October 30 Shared Governance Retreat, together with a list of campus priorities that were agreed upon by the attendees, were hyperlinked on today's agenda. CAPRA was asked to identify 1-2 areas to focus on for the remainder of AY 24-25 based on the campus priorities agreed upon at the shared governance retreat.

Action: Due to time constraints, this item was tabled until the January 22, 2025 meeting.

V. Consultation with Interim Director of EHS – *Thomas Lee*

Interim Director Lee shared a series of slides with the following information:

- EHS accomplishments since February 2024
- Next steps
 - Lab safety policy and escalation process
 - Lab safety coordinator program
 - Ergonomics program refresh
 - New regulatory requirements:
 - Indoor heat illness
 - IPM
 - Methylene Chloride
 - Changing regulatory requirements:
 - DEA – controlled substances
 - Dual Use Research of Concern
 - Radiation Health
- Next 90 days
 - Lab injury follow up
 - Incident analysis
 - Prepare for CalOSHA visit
 - Outreach to researchers
 - Backfill open roles
 - Lab close out process
 - Safety training catalog update
 - Emergency response planning
 - Injury and illness data analysis
 - EHS budget and expense analysis
 - Gas cylinder delivery redesign
 - Recruit faculty for IBC
 - EHS rebrand
 - Safety Culture survey by UCOP Center for Lab Safety
- EHS SWOT analysis
- Lab Safety Follow Up Audit: findings, recommendations, and EHS response.
- Annual research expenditures FY 10 – 23
- Staff and Resource Assessment summary

VPAAS Spitzmueller inquired how EHS is approaching process safety/lab safety. Interim Director Lee replied that additional effort is needed in the implementation, specifically partnerships with PIs, students, and postdocs. It is important to understand roles and responsibilities and to develop trust. A CAPRA member raised faculty concerns, mainly BSL3. Faculty were promised that this building would be open four years ago and the delay is significantly hindering their ability to conduct research.

VI. Consultation with VC/CFO Schnier

- A. Rising costs of financial aid (CAPRA's question from the December 2 meeting)
- B. Suggestions on potential areas for budget cuts

C. Detailed breakdown of OIT increased costs

Action: Due to time constraints, this item was tabled until a CAPRA meeting in spring semester.

VII. Executive Session – *Voting Members Only*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Attest: Kara McCloskey, CAPRA chair