

Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)
Minutes of Meeting
April 28, 2020

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 11:00 am on April 28, 2020 via Zoom, Chair Patricia LiWang presiding.

I. Consultation with EVC/Provost

EVC/Provost Camfield announced that enrollment for fall 2020 and summer session are both positive. Statements of Intent (SIR) to register for fall 2020 are also on a positive trajectory. UC Merced is also receiving more SIR from Central Valley students than in previous years. Other UC campuses are experiencing the same positive enrollment trends. Three UC campuses are conducting “quarter in the cloud” remote instruction for international students who cannot travel to the U.S.

APAPB Schnier has been conducting stress testing to run various budgetary scenarios. EVC/Provost Camfield stated that if the campus is able to stabilize the auxiliaries (who have sustained heavy losses resulting from cancelling housing and dining contracts) and if enrollment continues on its positive trajectory for fall 2020, the campus budget may be in a good place. However, the state budget is experiencing heavy losses and that will have an effect on the UC. UCOP is holding many discussions on how to respond. EVC/Provost Camfield stated that he is confident that the faculty merit program will remain in place for next year, but there will be no increase to faculty salary scales. He added that furloughs may be imposed across the UC system and they will be scaled according to employee salary. With regard to the UC retirement fund, employees’ normal, pre-pandemic salary level will be used as the baseline and not their reduced salary level if furloughs are imposed. Systemwide officials have proposed to suspend the collection of the employer portion of Social Security for six months or longer in an attempt to save money and prevent layoffs. EVC/Provost Camfield emphasized that no decisions will be made until the nature of the state budget is realized. We should anticipate not only the regular May Revise of the budget, but also a “summer revise”.

II. Chair’s Report

Chair LiWang updated CAPRA members on the Division Council meetings held on April 20 and April 27

Most of the relevant updates provided by the EVC/Provost and Senate Chair pertained to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. UCOP issued a draft, working document to the UC campuses that includes six indicators to guide the reopening of campus operations. EVC/Provost Camfield informed Division Council members that faculty and graduate students may be permitted to return to labs on campus by late summer, under certain health and safety conditions. Chair LiWang suggested that CAPRA request updates from CoR, who regularly consults with ex-officio committee member VCORED Traina. A CAPRA member asked how the pandemic and shutting down of labs has affected the previously established timeline for faculty to move into their new lab space. Another CAPRA member suggested contacting Director of Space Planning and Analysis, Maggie Saunders.

Action: Committee analyst to send CAPRA voting members the draft, working document from UCOP on resuming campus activities and to contact Director Saunders regarding the timeline for faculty moves.

III. Consent Calendar

- A. Today's agenda
- B. Draft meeting minutes April 14

Action: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

IV. Consultation with APAPB

APAPB Schnier thanked CAPRA members for their participation in this month's faculty town halls on academic planning. He devoted his consultation time at today's meeting to clarifying with CAPRA the evaluation process for Phase II of academic planning.

APAPB Schnier stated that he has received comments from deans that they require clarification on what Schools need to submit for Phase II. CAPRA members echoed this, and pointed out that they, too, would benefit from clarification on the evaluation process. APAPB Schnier stated that it is critical for CAPRA and the EVC/Provost to be on the same page.

APAPB Schnier suggested that one proposal is to narrow the scope of work by providing guidance on the strategies schools/divisions propose to advance school/divisional goals in order to simplify planning deliverables. Another way to simplify the process and deliverables is to select and prioritize certain indices and criteria over others; however, that may understandably lead to concerns about impacting the flexibility and creativity of Schools' plans.

A CAPRA member expressed concern over the focus on revenue generation as that phrase has a negative connotation. Also, Schools may not have enough information on what constitutes revenue-generating. Schools need to know what CAPRA's evaluation process will be, as that process will result in CAPRA recommending to the EVC/Provost which areas in the Schools are deserving of resources.

APAPB Schnier suggested reiterating to the Schools that CAPRA and the EVC/Provost will evaluate plans from the Schools in light of the indices and criteria and how the plans are advancing the campus as whole. The EVC/Provost will ultimately allocate resources to advance the campus as a whole. A CAPRA member suggested, instead of referring to "revenue-generating", Schools are asked how they plan to cover the costs of what they are proposing. Other members agreed and stated that CAPRA's responsibility is to focus on strategy and take an institutional view.

CAPRA members asked for clarification on how exactly they need to evaluate School plans. Members suggested that CAPRA has a role to play in the accountability of the campus, i.e. CAPRA should examine how successful Schools were in meeting their goals according to their strategies. CAPRA should make recommendations based on the projected impacts.

CAPRA members suggested getting clarification from EVC/Provost Camfield on how the committee should evaluate the School plans.

Action: At the next meeting, EVC/Provost Camfield will be asked to clarify with CAPRA members how they are expected to evaluate the Schools' plans.

V. Campus Review Item

A. Proposal to Establish a Stand-Alone Admissions and Financial Committee (AFAC)

This is a proposal to establish the current Admissions and Financial Aid Subcommittee (AFAS) of UGC as a stand-alone Admissions and Financial Aid Committee effective academic year 2020-2021.

Prior to this meeting, CAPRA members reviewed the lead reviewers' comments. Members had no additional comments.

Action: Committee analyst to distribute the draft memo to members for final approval. The memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by Friday, May 1.

VI. Joint Council updates

Senate Vice Chair DeLugan updated CAPRA members on the recent Joint Council meeting. The main topics of discussion were: 1) Global IT Funding Model; 2) the formulation of workgroups dedicated to a return to operations (remote/hybrid instruction subgroup; research subgroup; student relationship, access & success subgroup; and reactive administration subgroup); 3) fall 2020 planning under local public health constraints.

CAPRA was asked to consider sending an additional representative to the Joint Council.

Action: At the next meeting, CAPRA will discuss whether to recommend an additional representative to the Joint Council.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Attest: Patti LiWang, CAPRA chair