

Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)
Minutes of Meeting
April 3, 2024

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 9:00 am on April 3, 2024 in the Administration Building room 345. Interim Chair Kara McCloskey presiding.

I. Executive Session

This session was for voting members only and no minutes were taken.

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

A. Welcome new member, David Kaminsky (SSHA)

B. March 25 Divisional Council meeting

- The Senate Chair provided updates from the recent Academic Council meeting and meeting with UC VP Haynes. One particular topic of discussion was the negotiated salary program that the Senate reviewed in the past.
- Staff from External Relations shared images of the new secondary bobcat the campus will adopt for marketing purposes
- UC Regents Policy on Use of University Administrative Websites that was previously distributed for Senate review is now superseded by a new proposed policy from the Regents. This proposed policy was recently distributed to the Senate for review.
- Proposed Policy for Conflict of Interest with Course Material when Instructor is the Author. Divisional Council endorsed the proposed policy.
- Proposed amendments to Senate Regulation I.1.E (Passed/Not Passed), Senate Regulation I.2.B (Dropping a Course), and Senate Regulation III.1.A.d (Satisfactory Progress - P/NP). Divisional Council members voted to endorse the proposed amendments to Senate Regulation I.1.E and Senate Regulation III.1.A.d. Members agreed to send the proposed amendments to Senate Regulation I.2.B back for further edits.

C. April 2 UCPB meeting

- Discussion about union negotiations and ongoing concerns about the cost of graduate education. UCPB discussed the establishment of a committee that would work with Labor Relations. It is unclear whether that committee would include faculty representation. Interim CAPRA Chair McCloskey will look into this.
- Discussion about UC retirement and the pension no longer being the default option.
- Discussion about faculty being allowed to hire GSRs for the summer at less than 50%.

III. Consent Calendar

A. Today's agenda

B. Draft March 13 meeting minutes

Action: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

- IV. Consultation with Naoko Kada, Coordinator for Academic Program Development and Laura Martin, Assistant EVC/Provost

Prior to this meeting, CAPRA members received the presentation that Coordinator Kada gave to CAPRA members explaining the methodology used to derive enrollment projections. Kada provided a diagram of the enrollment projections workflow which included using IRDS and Gray Predicted Sizes and Draft IRDS Data Sheet. IRDS Data Sheet is produced using IRDS-provided data and projection methodology. The Data Sheet is reviewed by IRDS before being shared with faculty proposers, to ensure a uniform message is delivered to the faculty. The projection methodologies from IRDS is based on most recent IPEDS completions data for programs nationwide, by CIP code in the categories of R1 and R2 institutions with 10-15K total (undergraduate and graduate) students, R2 institutions of all sizes, and R1 and R2 institutions of all sizes. For Gray, the source data is the same as IRDS, but calculation is based on UC Merced's current institutional characteristics. Coordinator Kada and Assistant EVC/Provost Martin also explained the process for calculating first-year enrollment.

- V. Consultation with EVC/Provost Dumont

Prior to this meeting, EVC/Provost Dumont asked CAPRA what they believe she as the incoming new EVC/Provost should know as the campus finishes this academic year and prepare for the next one.

CAPRA members recommended these priorities:

- The TAS budget is a high priority. The Senate strongly believes a new TAS budget model is needed. The campus is still working under the old model but the campus has changed significantly since that original model was implemented so it is not sustainable or flexible. The old model is hampering planning for future new majors and new schools.
- Reexamining the role of CAPRA, as the amount of work the committee is asked to do and the amount of details it receives can be overwhelming. There needs to be a middle ground where shared governance is still followed.
- Department-level staffing. CAPRA has strongly advocated for this, and spearheaded the faculty survey on this issue in a previous academic year. The committee's report on the survey results was endorsed by Divisional Council and shared with all faculty (including school deans) and the administration. It appears that SNS has implemented a staffing model but the status of departmental staff hiring in SoE and SSHA is unclear.
- Encourage more faculty hiring through the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP). The program is an excellent way to hire accomplished faculty, but the campus is

underutilizing it. These lines are subsidized for the first five years (after which time the campus has to cover the cost), which is another way they are beneficial to the campus.

EVC/Provost Dumont agreed with CAPRA members on all the aforementioned issues. She acknowledged that staff hiring is a slow process as it takes time to develop the positions. She also agreed that the campus needs to encourage more PFP hires but she pointed out that she needs to be sure the campus has the resources to support these faculty lines after their five-year subsidized time period is over. EVC/Provost Dumont also voiced her support for re-examining CAPRA's role moving forward.

CAPRA Interim Chair McCloskey expressed her appreciation for the fact that faculty's frustrations about procurement and financial reporting are being heard and addressed. A project manager is being hired to handle these issues after the Financial Management Task Force concludes its work.

VI. Campus Review Items

A. Proposed establishment of an Science, Technology, and Ethics Major and Minor Proposal

Member Carolyn Jennings recused from this discussion due to a conflict of interest.

The lead reviewer summarized his comments. CAPRA supported them and recommended an additional comment.

Action: The committee analyst will distribute the revised memo for further edits and approval. The final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair before 5:00 pm today.

B. Proposed Establishment of a Communication and Media Major and Minor

Member David Kaminsky recused from this discussion due to a conflict of interest.

Action: The committee analyst will follow up with the lead reviewer who was absent from today's meeting. Once the lead reviewer provides comments, the committee analyst will distribute them to CAPRA via email. CAPRA will finalize a draft memo at the April 17 meeting. CAPRA's final memo is due to the Senate Chair by Friday, April 19.

C. Proposed name change of the Materials Science and Engineering Department to the Chemical and Materials Engineering Department.

Interim CAPRA Chair McCloskey recused from this discussion due to a conflict of interest.

CAPRA selected a lead reviewer.

Action: After the lead reviewer has provided comments, the committee analyst will distribute them to CAPRA via email. CAPRA will finalize a draft memo at the April 17 meeting. CAPRA's final memo is due to the Senate Chair by Friday, May 3.

D. Proposed Establishment of a Neuroscience B.A., B.S., and Minor

CAPRA selected a lead reviewer.

Action: After the lead reviewer provides comments, the committee analyst will distribute them to CAPRA via email. CAPRA will finalize a draft memo at the April 17 meeting. CAPRA’s final memo is due to the Senate Chair by Friday, May 3.

VII. Systemwide Review Item

A. Proposed Academic Senate Statement on UC Quality (“Characteristics of Educational Quality at the University of California”). This document was prepared by the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP).

CAPRA selected a lead reviewer.

Action: After the lead reviewer provides comments, the committee analyst will distribute them to CAPRA via email. CAPRA will finalize a draft memo at the April 17 meeting. CAPRA’s final memo is due to the Senate Chair by Friday, April 19.

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

Attest: Kara McCloskey, CAPRA interim chair