

Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA)**Minutes of Meeting****September 12, 2023**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation met at 1:00 pm on September 12, 2023 in the Administration Building room 245 and via Zoom. Chair Kevin Mitchell presiding.

I. Executive Session

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

II. Consent Calendar

A. Today's agenda

B. May 9 draft meeting minutes

Action: the Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

III. Chair's Report – *Chair Mitchell*

A. Welcome and introductions

i. CAPRA AY 23-24 roster

Chair Mitchell stated that he will ask CoC for two additional members for CAPRA.

ii. CAPRA bylaws

iii. Guides to Committee Membership and Executive Session

iv. September 7 Divisional Council meeting

- Divisional Council consulted with EVC/Provost Zatz
- Divisional Council discussed the SSHA memo on faculty and instructor losses

IV. CAPRA Representation on Campus Committees

A. Periodic Review Oversight Committee (PROC)

Senate Vice Chair and CAPRA member Matt Hibbing is the co-chair of PROC, however, CAPRA was invited to identify an additional representative to serve on PROC.

Action: Kara McCloskey volunteered to serve as CAPRA's additional representative on PROC. The committee analyst will inform the Senate Executive Director.

V. ACE Funds

Interim VC & CFO Schnier reminded CAPRA members that ACE funds were given to UC Merced last year to jumpstart campus growth through the creation of new undergraduate programs, faculty FTE lines, and staff support. The Schools have hired, or are in the process of hiring, department managers, department specialists, and financial staff.

VPAAS Spitzmueller clarified that these staff belong to the departments and not to the deans' offices. To decide how to allocate staff positions, the administration was informed by transaction volume data which was obtained by Interim VC & CFO Schnier. A CAPRA member suggested inviting the three School deans to a CAPRA meeting so they can discuss how they are spending the ACE funds. Interim VC & CFO Schnier stated that to the best of his knowledge, SSHA and SoE are adopting the same staffing model created by SNS.

Funding was also allocated to Student Affairs, IT, ORED, and for the Agricultural Experiment Station.

VI. Consultation with Interim EVC/Provost Zatz and Interim VC & CFO Schnier

Interim EVC/Provost Zatz stated that SSHA Dean Gilger is working on a model to establish a division within SSHA. She is holding some funding to allocate to the division to hire a manager if it is created. She added that APO received a labor position that came out of research funding, not the ACE funds. ACE funds were used for FTE lines for an assistant professor and full professor in electrical engineering and a teaching professor in chemical engineering. Regular campus funds were used to provide computer science and engineering with more faculty FTE lines due to their large number of students. Interim EVC/Provost Zatz also provided support to psychology to hire two assistant professors in quantitative psychology due to their volume of students. SoE Dean Goel's offer letter stated that he can identify four faculty FTE lines, but Interim EVC/Provost Zatz informed him he will be provided with one line at a time rather than all at once. His top choice was a teaching professor in civil engineering. In addition, an FTE line is being given to bioengineering to hire a teaching professor given that the Senate approved that degree program.

Interim EVC/Provost Zatz encourages units to collaborate with each other to use summer salary to make more hires. Another potential source of funding is the amount that Schools are receiving back on Master's programs.

Interim EVC/Provost Zatz informed CAPRA that Academic Affairs is working with Schools on financials, as two Schools have lost financial staff. Assistant EVC/Provost for Finance and Administration Sharon Butler is leading this charge, and Academic Affairs is training School financial staff over the next few months.

CAPRA Chair Mitchell stated that last year, CAPRA spent a significant amount of time discussing the budget requests that were submitted in response to the campus budget call but due to minimal money in the general campus funds, there were no allocations. Student enrollment targets were not met which has had a severe impact on the campus budget. Interim VC & CFO Schnier replied that the administration is considering streamlining this year's budget call given the minimal amount of funding available to allocate.

Interim EVC/Provost Zatz reported that SNS and SSHA are projecting large deficits while SoE is projecting "flat". The administration is working with SNS and SSHA to try to reduce their costs. One of the issues is

the higher cost of funding graduate students, so there needs to be a discussion on how to place more graduate students on grants and fellowships.

Interim VC & CFO Schnier stated that he wants CAPRA to help with planning for fall 2024 and spring 2025 in order to stay ahead. Interim EVC/Provost confirmed that the campus needs to reduce the number of unit 18 lecturers and re-think the mix of teaching, e.g. whether faculty could teach more lower division large classes. A CAPRA member suggested that the campus should allow faculty to teach across departments. Interim EVC/Provost agreed with this idea and added that the campus should also consider possible online courses. Interim VC & CFO Schnier stated that he will share with CAPRA his classroom utilization data and classroom configuration data from across the UC system.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Attest: Kevin Mitchell, CAPRA chair