

**COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ELECTIONS (CRE)  
ANNUAL REPORT  
AY 2023-2024**

**To the Merced Division of the Academic Senate:**

In AY 2023-2024, CRE held a total of 8 regularly scheduled meetings in order to conduct business with respect to its duties as outlined in UC Merced's [Senate Bylaw II.IV.8](#). Some business items were discussed and resolved via email.

**Elections**

The first Call for Nominations for four positions on the [Committee on Committees](#) (CoC) and two At-Large members of the [Divisional Council](#) (DivCo) was distributed to Senate members on January 19, 2024. Complete nomination forms were due to the Senate Office by February 1, 2024. In the absence of a sufficient number of nominations, the deadline to submit nominations was extended to February 15, 2024. The Election ballots were distributed on February 16, 2024. The ballot closed on February 23, 2024. Results [were announced](#) on February 23, 2024.

Elected Members of the [Committee on Committees](#) for two-year terms:

- Professor Mayra Bamaca – School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts
- Professor Roummel Marcia – School of Natural Sciences
- Professor Victor Muñoz– School of Engineering
- Professor Jesus Sandoval-Hernandez – School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts

Elected [Divisional Council](#) At-Large Members:

- Professor Sarah Depaoli – School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts (one-year term)
- Professor Shilpa Khatri – School of Natural Sciences (two-year term)

**Consultation**

CRE was consulted by the following campus constituents:

- Interim Dean of SSHA / Former UGC Chair Heather Bortfeld
- Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Group Chair Susan Amussen
- Sociology Professor and Chair Laura Hamilton
- Global Arts, Media & Writing Studies Department Chair Paul Gibbons
- SSHA Associate Dean Anne Zanzucchi

**Review Items**

CRE reviewed and offered comments on the following systemwide review items:

- Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaw 55 – Departmental Voting Rights
- Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs
- Academic Personnel Manual (APM) section 672 – Negotiated Salary Program
- Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-46 Use of University Vehicles
- Proposed Revisions to APM 285 – LSOEs
- Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-50: Controlled Substances Use in Research and Teaching
- Regents Policy on Use of Administrative Websites
- Proposed Amendment to SR 424.A.3 (Area H)

- Proposed Revisions to APM 710 – Leaves of Absence/Sick Leave/Medical Leave
- UC Regents Policy on Public and Discretionary Statements by Academic Units
- Proposed Academic Senate Statement on UC Quality
- Report of the University of California Systemwide Advisory Work Group on Students with Disabilities
- Proposed Revisions to APM 016 – University Policy on Faculty Conduct and the Administration of Discipline

CRE reviewed and offered comments on the following campus wide review items:

- Proposal for Establishment of a Department of Medical Education
- Policy on Transmission of Documents to the University Archive
- Interim Implementing Procedures for Abusive Conduct in the Workplace
- Proposal to Change the Name of the Materials Science & Engineering Department to Chemical & Materials Engineering

CRE took action on the following items:

- Voted in favor of allowing the Merritt Writing Program (MWP) Director to serve on Senate Committees, subject to the same restrictions that apply to Department Chairs.
- Endorsed the proposed Bylaws for the Division of Undergraduate Education Executive Committee (DUEEC).
- Issued a [ruling on the interpretation of Senate Bylaw II.II.2.A. \(CAP Membership\)](#) confirming full Teaching Professors eligibility to serve on CAP.
- Evaluated and provided recommendations for UGC’s policy on Conflict of Interest (COI) with Course Material Selection when the Instructor is the Author.
- Evaluated and provided recommendations regarding an interpretation of the Interdisciplinary Humanities (IH) Graduate Group Bylaws.
- Voted to endorse the proposed amendments to the following Divisional Senate Bylaws and Regulations, [effective June 25, 2024](#):
  - Proposed Amendments to Bylaw II.IV.2.A (Admissions and Financial Aid Committee Membership, AFAC)
  - Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaw II.III.2.A (Committee on Academic Personnel Membership, CAP)
  - Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaw II.III.3.A (Reserve Committee on Academic Personnel Membership, RCAP)
  - Proposed Amendments to Senate Regulation I.1.E (P/NP, for Undergraduate Students) & Proposed Amendments to Senate Regulation III.1.A.d (Satisfactory Progress - P/NP, for Graduate Students)
  - Proposed Amendments to Senate Regulation II.3.B (Academic Dismissal)

Respectfully submitted,

CRE Members (with thanks to the Senate Office for their indispensable support throughout the year):

Christopher Viney (SOE), Chair

Noemi Petra (SNS), Vice Chair

Michael Beman (SNS), Spring 2024

Aditi Chandra (SSHA)

Jeff Yoshimi (SSHA)

Staff:

Fatima Paul, Senate Executive Director

Sang Lee, Senate Analyst

Petra Martins, Senate Analyst