

Contact Us:
senateoffice@ucmerced.edu

Merced Academic Senate



December 2019 Issue

<http://senate.ucmerced.edu>

Senate Monthly Publication

Division News

From the Senate Chair: As the first half of the 2019-20 academic year comes to a close, I'd like to thank Senate committees for all the work they have undertaken on behalf of the Division this fall. Their efforts strengthen the campus and system in ways large and small and I am grateful for our colleagues' contributions on our behalves.

As always, committees will be reporting on their activities at the annual fall Meeting of the Division scheduled to take place on Thursday, December 12, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in KL 232. A reception with hors d'oeuvres and wine will immediately follow. I encourage you to join the meeting and hear important updates from Interim Chancellor Brostrom and EVC/Provost Camfield. We will also be voting on proposed revisions to the portion of Division [Bylaw II.IV.4](#) outlining the membership and duties of the Library and Scholarly Communication Committee. A quorum of 50 Senate members is required to enact this Bylaw change, otherwise the proposal must be put to an electronic vote of the Division. If you are unable to join the meeting in person, I hope you will consider joining by Zoom. Call-in information was distributed December 5, with the meeting's agenda.

I also hope you will take a few moments to complete the Senate Service Preference Survey for AY 20-21, including to let the Committee on Committees (CoC) know if you are unable to serve. The survey was distributed on Monday, December 2. As a former CoC member myself, I know the CoC finds the survey very useful in helping to align invitations to serve with preferences for service. If you have any questions about the survey, please direct them to Senateoffice@ucmerced.edu.

In other news, the Senate's Executive Director, Laura Martin, is stepping down effective January 1, 2020. She will assume a position in the Provost's Office at UC Merced. On behalf of the Senate, I congratulate Laura on her new position and express, in the strongest terms, our appreciation for all she has done for the Senate. I am pleased to report that Associate Director Fatima Paul has agreed to serve as Interim Executive Director effective January 1, 2020 until the position is filled. I thank Fatima for her willingness to assume these responsibilities.

In closing, I wish you all a productive end to the semester and a restful and restorative holiday break! - Tom Hansford

DEC MEETING SCHEDULES

Merced Division

DIVCO - Dec 4, 18
CAP - Dec 6, 13
CAPRA - Dec 19
CoR - Dec 3, 17
CRE - Dec 18
CoC - Dec 5
D&E - Dec 17
GC - Dec 11
UGC - Dec 17
LASC - Dec 4
AFAS - Dec 16

CONTACT THE CHAIR

Questions, concerns, or issues you would like to see addressed? Contact Senate Chair Tom Hansford at senatechair@ucmerced.edu



Committee Highlights

[The Committee on Academic Personnel](#) (CAP) is conducting business as usual.

[The Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA) consulted with the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Budget, Kurt Schnier, on the graduate funding model and continues to discuss how it will engage in the academic planning process.

[The Committee on Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#) (FWAF) recently consulted with the Ombuds and the Chief of Staff to the EVC/Provost on the [Prohibition of Abusive Conduct and Acts of Violence Policy](#). The Associate VPF briefed the committee on a proposed mediation program.

[The Committee on Research](#) (COR) continues to revise the [Policy for the Establishment and Review of Organized Research Units](#) in response to comments received from Senate committees, School Executive Committees, and ORU directors.

[The Graduate Council](#) (GC) approved and transmitted to the Graduate Division a revised version of the Graduate Policies and Procedures Handbook, effective November 13, 2019. GC also discussed charges to the review teams for two graduate programs undergoing program review.

[The Committee on Rules and Elections](#) (CRE) endorsed, on November 26, proposed amendments to UCM [Senate Bylaw I.III.5](#), related to the Senate Elections. The proposal will be submitted to Divisional Council and considered at the Spring 2020 Meeting of the Division.

[The Committee on Diversity and Equity](#) (D&E) is actively engaged in reviewing the Periodic Review Oversight Committee's current practices and future plans for addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion in program reviews. D&E has also revised the Faculty Equity Advisors selection guidelines.

[The Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC) issued recommendations on the proposal for a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering and endorsed the proposal to establish [Admissions and Financial Aid Subcommittee](#) as a stand-alone Senate committee. UGC also endorsed two proposals from the General Education Executive Committee: updated Education Abroad Programs and Co-Curricular Intellectual Experiences for "Shakespeare in Yosemite".

[Divisional Council](#) (DivCo) commented on the proposal for the second phase of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Sustainability and the charter for a proposed Faculty Advisory Committee on Information Technology.