



Academic Senate

December 2020 Newsletter | senate.ucmerced.edu

Division News:

From the Senate Chair: As the first half of the 2020-2021 academic year comes to a close, I would like to thank Senate committees and the Senate Office Team 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.

This year's Call for Nominations for the election of At-Large Divisional Council and Committee on Committees members closed on December 2, 2020. An extension to the Call for Nominations was issued on December 3, 2020. I strongly encourage you to consider self-nominating or nominating your colleagues.

Thank you for responding to the Committee on Committees' Senate Service Preference Survey. Your responses will help CoC match next year's service opportunities to your interest.

On November 24, 2020, the recipients of the 2020 Remote Instruction Excellence Award were announced. There were over 300 nominations submitted by graduate and undergraduate students. The awardees along with excerpts from the student nomination may be found [here](#). Congratulations to the 2020 Remote Instruction Excellence Awardees!

Effective November 13, UC Merced Tax Services implemented a new GLACIER database separate from UCLA. GLACIER is a secure web-based Nonresident Alien (NRA) tax compliance system that foreign individuals can use to provide their immigrant and tax data to UC Merced 24 hours a day. More information is available [here](#).

Revisions to the General Education Program Approved by Senate Faculty

Revisions to the General Education (GE) Program were approved by the Senate faculty on November 17, 2020. Measures were approved at a rate of 87% or higher, and included: 1) removal of the ePortfolio requirement; 2) removal of the co-curricular components of the Intellectual Experience (IE) Badges from GE requirements to a separate digital badging platform; 3) removal of the IE Badge Practical and Applied Knowledge; 4) removal of the IE Badge Leadership, Community and Engaging the World; and 5) approval of new criteria allowing a broader range of first year seminar experiences beyond the current Spark seminar. All revisions would be retroactive to the fall of 2018, with the exception of the co-curricular and Spark seminar

All revisions would be retroactive to the fall of 2018, with the exception of the co-curricular and Spark seminar measures, which would be effective fall of 2021. For further information, please contact ge@ucmerced.edu.

Systemwide Activities:

- On November 13, 2020, Academic Senate Chair Gauvain shared a [letter](#) including the set of recommendations from the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) related to the administration of the systemwide Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE) in 2021.
- On November 23, 2020, University President Michael V. Drake shared a [letter](#) explaining the launch of a consultation process with the UC community to explore the idea of a systemwide program to preserve jobs and avoid COVID-related layoffs to every extent possible, and to help address the more than \$2 billion budget deficit UC faces due to the pandemic. He also provided the [FY 2020-2021 Guidelines for University of California Jobs Protection during the Pandemic](#), which includes information regarding the AY 20-21 curtailment program.
- A [Meeting of the Assembly of the Academic Senate](#) is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 9, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. via zoom.**

Finally, the Senate will be holding its annual Fall Meeting of the Division on **Thursday, December 17, 2020, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom.** I hope you will mark your calendars and join us for this meeting.

- Robin DeLugan

Committee Highlights

[The Admissions and Financial Aid Committee](#) (AFAC) approved revisions to the Admissions by Exception policy on November 23, 2020.

[The Committee on Academic Personnel](#) (CAP) is reviewing the pre-proposal to establish the Gallo School, the proposed MAPP 025 policy, and is reviewing its bylaws per the request of the Senate Chair to identify ways to possibly expand diversity, equity, and inclusion. The committee is also conducting its normal business of case review.

[The Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#) (CAPRA) transmitted its recommendations on the School and Division draft academic plans to APAPB Schnier on November 13. CAPRA is reviewing the pre-proposal to establish the Gallo School, the proposed distribution policy of indirect costs, the proposed Presidential Policy on IT Recovery, the ILTI report, the proposed MAPP 025 policy, and the draft academic planning targets. At its December 15 meeting, CAPRA will consult with EVC/Provost Camfield and APAPB Schnier on the timeline for Phase III of academic planning. Finally, the committee is reviewing its bylaws per the request of the Senate Chair to identify ways to possibly expand diversity, equity, and inclusion.

[The Committee on Research](#) (COR) is reviewing the results of the faculty survey on core facilities, reviewed the revised proposal to establish the Community and Labor Center as an ORU, and opined on the pre-proposal to establish the Gallo School. CoR is currently reviewing the proposed distribution policy of indirect costs, the proposed Presidential Policy on IT Recovery, the proposed MAPP 025 policy, and the draft academic planning targets. Finally, the committee is reviewing its bylaws per the request of the Senate Chair to identify ways to possibly expand diversity, equity, and inclusion.

[The Committee on Rules and Elections](#) (CRE) issued its annual Call for Nominations on Wednesday, November 18, 2020. Due to the insufficient number of nominations for the At-Large positions on Divisional Council, the call for nominations was extended.

[The Committee for Diversity and Equity](#) (D&E) met on 11/16/20 and discussed the proposed revision to systemwide Senate Bylaw 336.F.8.; Gallo School of Management Pre-Proposal with a proposal team representative; and D&E Bylaws with representatives from Staff and Faculty of Color Association (SFCA) as well as UC Merced Black Alliance (UCMBA). D&E also learned of SFCA and UCMBA's priorities, and consulted with AC/CDO Matos on possible collaboration.

[The Committee on Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#) (FWAF)'s regular meeting was 11/17/20, where members continued to discuss ECEC, reviewed the proposed revision to systemwide Senate Bylaw 336.F.8., and consulted with AVPF Valdez on the proposed authorship board. FWAF held a special meeting on 11/23/20 with the EVC/Provost, the Chief Human Resources Officer, and other administrators where FWAF received and discussed the administration's updates on its actions regarding ECEC.

[The Graduate Council](#) (GC) met on 11/9/20 and 11/23/20. GC discussed the Gallo School Pre-proposal and Master of Data Science and Analytics proposal, reviewed Campus Policy on Extension Non-Degree Program Approval, and reviewed and suggested revisions to the GC Bylaws. GC also discussed the PhD Enrollment Management and TA Allocation Model with Interim Graduate Dean Kello and APAPB Schnier, and collaborated with them to produce a FAQ document, which was distributed to the chairs of departments, graduate groups, and school executive committees.

[The Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication](#) (LASC) met on 12/1 and is currently reviewing its bylaws, drafting a memo regarding support for the library to assist the campus in reaching its academic planning targets, and considering Library support suggestions for the 2030 plan.

[The Undergraduate Council](#) (UGC) met on 11/9/20 and discussed the pre-proposal for the Gallo School of Management. UGC's comments were submitted to Divisional Council on 11/30/20. Council also discussed and approved revisions to the Emergency Educational Continuity policy, available [here](#).

[Divisional Council](#) (DivCo) endorsed the Chemistry and Chemical Biology Department request to change its name to Chemistry and Biochemistry and commented on the Online Undergraduate Degree Task Force Report. Members of Divisional Council met with Dr. Hurd and Dean Dumont on November 30, 2020 to discuss the proposed Medical Education program. Consultations with

December
Meeting Schedules

AFAC – DEC 14
CAP – DEC 4, 11
CAPRA – DEC 15
CoC – DEC 15
CoR – DEC 7
D&E – DEC 14
DIVCO – DEC 11
FWAF – DEC 17
GC – DEC 7
LASC – DEC 1
UGC – DEC 14

ASSEMBLY – DEC 9
BOARS – DEC 4
CCGA – DEC 2
COUNCIL – DEC 16
EDIT – DEC 11
UCACC – DEC 17
UCAF – DEC 15
UCEP – DEC 7
UCFW – DEC 11
UCIE – DEC 18
UCOC – DEC 8

Contact the Chair

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



Review Items:

A webpage on the UCM Senate website is now available and will be updated regularly. Please click [here](#) to view the items that are currently discussed and reviewed locally and at the systemwide level.

