

Division Council (DivCo)
Minutes of Meeting
November 9, 2015

Pursuant to call, the Division Council met at 2:30 pm on November 9, 2015 in Room 238 of the Student Services Building, Chair Cristián Ricci presiding.

Present: Tanya Golash-Boza, Mukesh Singhal, Christopher Viney, Ajay Gopinathan, Cristián Ricci, Mike Dawson, Robin DeLugan, Peter Vanderschraaf, Tom Hansford, Patti LiWang, Fanis Tsoulouhas, Josh Viers.

I. Provost/EVC Peterson

Shortly before this meeting, Provost Peterson requested to attend. He raised the issue of the tragic campus events on November 4 and reiterated that the administration does not yet have all the facts of the investigation. Once the investigation is completed, he will communicate the information to the campus community. He asked DivCo members for their advice and input on the most effective way to communicate this information to faculty members. His intention is to establish a clear line of communication from the administration to the faculty to avoid confusion or misinterpretation.

A DivCo member suggested that the administration state that while it is grateful to the officers for doing their job, the campus regrets the loss of life. Also, the administration's messaging should refer to the individual as a student rather than the "assailant", etc.

Another DivCo member inquired about additional psychological counseling services. Provost Peterson encouraged faculty members' input on whether the current services are adequate and whether their availability was widely communicated to the campus. It is also problematic that the Merced community lacks adequate psychological services. A DivCo member pointed out that faculty members need resources and support on how to handle

difficult students; several faculty members have anecdotes on having to pacify students they felt were a danger to others.

A group of faculty members will be conducting a teach-in on Monday, November 16 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm in a location to be determined. Students have approached faculty members with sensitive and complicated questions about the incident so faculty members intend to discuss how to raise these issues with regard to their roles as instructors. Students and student association representatives will attend.

DivCo members also pointed out the following: the campus emergency website was not updated for several hours after the incident, the campus needs additional entertainment options for students who feel isolated and disenfranchised, and guidance is needed for graduate student TAs who are often on the “front line” of these types of incidents in the classrooms.

Provost/EVC Peterson ended by emphasizing his desire that faculty members contact him with any concerns or input.

II. Consent Calendar

ACTION: Today’s agenda and the October 12 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. Medical Education Taskforce

Professor Paul Brown attended and provided DivCo members with updates on the work of the medical education taskforce, established in AY 13-14.

Prior to this meeting, Professor Brown distributed a summary from the task force that included the list of options for delivering medical education at UCM and the task force’s recommendations. The task force recommends the following:

- Continue renegotiations with UC Davis and UCSF over the terms of an extension to the recently expired MOU;
- Negotiations should be led by the Chancellor or her delegate, but in close consultation with DivCo and the faculty associated with the Human Health Sciences Initiative;
- Have the term of the renegotiated MOU expire in June 2017;
- UC Merced should actively pursue exploring the feasibility and financial viability of a UC Berkeley/UCSF style joint medical program model of Pre-Clinical Medical Education;
- Development of this option should be led by a faculty group but with support and close consultation with the administration;
- To support the exploration of this option, the Administration should employ an advisor with experience in medical education to assess the financial viability of the JMP style model, including the ability to raise substantial resources from external sources,
- The faculty agree to a deadline of June 2017 to make a decision regarding Medical Education.

After a brief discussion, DivCo members agreed with the task force's recommendations.

ACTION: DivCo to send a memo of endorsement to the task force members.

IV. Committee Chair Reports

- CAP – due to a lack of cases, CAP has not met since mid-October.
- CAPRA – the Provost/EVC announced to the campus his intention to release four foundational FTE lines. At the October 28 meeting, CAPRA recommended that foundational lines be allocated to six areas and the committee sent a formal memo to the Provost/EVC shortly after the meeting. The Provost attended the meeting and expressed his appreciation that CAPRA recommended allocating FTE lines to six areas rather than the prescribed four. However, the Provost/EVC has not yet announced his final decision on the allocation of these lines.

AVC Donna Jones also attended the October 28 meeting and shared with CAPRA – with the permission of the Chancellor – the campus budget information that she presented at a previous Chancellor’s Cabinet meeting. This was the first time that CAPRA has been given such information and the committee was quite appreciative.

- CoC – the committee successfully appointed an additional CAPRA member from SSHA, thereby balancing CAPRA’s membership with two representatives per school. CoC is still seeking an additional member of CAP and GC. CoC is facing challenges with getting faculty members to respond, as SAFI and Project 2020 represents a large component of the faculty’s workload this year.
- CRE – Cognitive and Information Sciences asked CRE for a review of its bylaws. In addition, CRE is researching the procedures on voting rights on personnel cases.
- COR – the Provost/EVC agreed to increase the funds for the Senate faculty grants program to \$175,000 per year for the next two years. COR is also waiting for responses from the Provost and VCORED Traina on their policies for the establishment of centers and ORUs (in AY 14-15, the Senate requested one streamlined policy similar to that of the Senate’s newly-created comprehensive research units policy).
- FWAF – in the absence of the committee chair, the following updates were provided via email: 1) the Regents’ Statement of Principles Against Intolerance continues to be discussed at UCAF; 2) The Academic Personnel office has issued the annual call for the National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity/Faculty Success program. As a reminder, in AY 14-15, FWDAF and the VPF teamed up to develop a campuswide competition to fund six assistant professors to participate in this six-week boot camp national program. Last year, thanks to funding from the VPF and the school deans, the campus funded all assistant professors who applied for this program. FWAF’s main role in this is to review the applications from assistant professors and select winners, in consultation with the school deans. 3) The next FWAF meeting is on 11/19 where FWAF will meet the new Police

Chief/AVC for Public Safety about faculty members' role in a campus emergency plan.

- GC – The Council endorsed the honors task force report. Updates on CCGA proposals include: the economics proposal is currently being reviewed by CCGA, MIST and PH are being reviewed by GC, ME was recently revised and will undergo another review by GC, and the proposals from BEST and EECS are still pending from these programs. GC is also soliciting feedback on the concentrations and emphases policy. Lastly, ES underwent graduate program review, the first of its kind at UCM.
- UGC – The Council received a revised GASP proposal from SSHA, but upon reviewing, it was apparent that the revisions did not include the SSHA response to requests for clarifications and recommendations made by the Senate and the administration. UGC Chair Viney met with the relevant SSHA faculty and staff. The proposal authors will add a paragraph to the revised proposal and are on target to send to UGC before the Thanksgiving break. Other Senate committees will also be invited to review.
- D&E – submitted a revised memo on the lack of diversity in UCM's endowed chairs. This memo was transmitted to the Senate Chair and VPF Camfield. Committee chair Golash-Boza requested that the memo be sent from DivCo/Senate Chair to the Chancellor and Provost/EVC. Time is of the essence, as one school is currently discussing the appointing of two endowed chairs.

ACTION: DivCo will forward D&E's endowed chairs memo, along with a cover memo stating its endorsement, to the Chancellor, Provost/EVC, and VPF.

Other updates from D&E included the discussion about faculty equity advisors. Other campuses appoint individuals to these positions and their role is to advise faculty search committees on more effectively attracting a diverse applicant pool. Faculty equity advisors are trained on implicit bias and the search procedure process. D&E is

attempting to identify two faculty members in each school who are willing to serve informally in this capacity. The goal is to send faculty members to UC Davis to receive the training, then replicate the training at UCM before ultimately appointing faculty equity advisors.

Finally, the D&E chair stated that she and fellow DivCo member DeLugan are hosting a panel of President's Postdoctoral Fellows in spring semester to raise awareness about this important program and the highly-qualified fellows that will be seeking ladder-rank faculty positions. D&E recently sent a memo to the Senate Chair, pointing out the fact that assistant professors are unable to serve as President's Postdoctoral Fellow mentors; this is only reserved for tenured faculty. D&E argued that assistant professors are in a better position to serve as postdoc mentors. D&E requested that the memo be forwarded to systemwide Provost Susan Carlson in an attempt to change this component of the fellowship program and allow all ladder-rank faculty members to serve as mentors to President's Postdoctoral Fellows.

V. Proposed Revisions to the MAPP

CAP, GC, and the SSHA executive committee submitted comments on the proposed revisions, pertaining to the L(P) SOE series.

ACTION: DivCo will forward the comments it received to VPF Camfield.

VI. Revised Public Health Bylaw 55 Unit Proposal

Senate committees are still opining on this item.

VII. Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulations 417 and 621

ACTION: DivCo endorses both sets of proposed revisions and a memo will be transmitted to UCOP.

VIII. Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 140

ACTION: DivCo endorses the proposed revision and a memo will be transmitted to UCOP.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Attest:

Cristián Ricci, Senate Chair