



**SPRING MEETING OF THE MERCED DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019
3:00 – 4:30 P.M.
232 KOLLIGIAN LIBRARY**

I. Chair's Report and Announcements

Chair Schnier began his remarks by announcing that Professor Sean Malloy (SSHA) was awarded the inaugural early career faculty service award bestowed by the systemwide Academic Senate. He then shared that last year's school restructuring efforts progressed smoothly this academic year, thanks largely to School of Natural Sciences Dean Dumont who remained at the helm of the initiative. The re-envisioned Academic Planning Working Group will dissolve and many of its functions will move under the auspices of CAPRA in the next academic year. The Budget Working Group also concluded its work this year. Chair Schnier stated that his main objective this academic year was to align the goals of the Academic Senate and the administration. He attended meetings of the Deans Council and consulted regularly with the EVC/Provost and was encouraged to note the interest in collaboration with the Senate. Chair Schnier ended his remarks by thanking the faculty for their work and dedication.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of the Agenda
- B. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the December 4, 2018 Meeting of the Division

ACTION: Approved as presented.

III. Campus Update – *Chancellor Leland and EVC/Provost Camfield*

Chancellor Leland reported that the 2020 project is progressing well, and expressed her appreciation for the campus community's cooperation and collaboration.

The Chancellor recognizes the ongoing concern of the lack of access to quality health care for Merced employees. She announced that she is in the final stages of discussions with UCSF/Fresno to establish a clinic at UC Merced so employees can have access to the range of UCSF medical specialties. Details of clinic hours are unknown at this time, but stakeholders envision that the clinic could be open three days a week and then increase depending on the demand. The clinic may initially offer family medicine/internal medicine services and then add specialties as needed. Once an MOU is drafted, stakeholders may conduct a survey of UC Merced employees on their medical needs and use the survey results to inform the decision on which services to offer at the clinic.

The Chancellor has spent a significant amount of time the past few weeks in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. in connection with immigration reform discussions. The changes to immigration policies ordered by the current administration will affect faculty and staff who are at the UC on various visas. The Chancellor is a founding member of a council that includes 280 college and university presidents/chancellors who are voicing their strong support for faculty and students affected by immigration policies. New attempts are being made in Congress at getting the Dream Act passed. A call to action will be distributed to the campus community soon, and when the timing of the vote in Congress draws near, the Chancellor will issue a communication asking the campus community write letters of support for Dream Act students.

With regard to the Governor's budget, at this point in time, there is funding for students needs and degree completion programs; however, there is no funding for new enrollment next year. The lack of funding for new enrollment harms the other UC campuses more than UC Merced, as Merced is still covered by the MOU with UCOP that gives us \$10,000 for new students irrespective of the state budget. The UC system is lobbying for permanent funding for enrollment growth. It remains to be seen what the final budget will contain. Chancellor Leland has been advocating for summer Cal Grants for students. Many of UC Merced's students depend on a financial aid package that includes Pell grants and Blue and Gold grants; if the students cannot obtain Cal Grant aid in the summer, they cannot take summer programming such as study abroad, undergraduate research, or summer bridge programs. Senate Bill 461 (the successor to Assembly Bill 3153 which did not make it out of the legislature last year) proposes to extend Cal Grant aid to students during summer sessions. Chancellor Leland asked faculty members for their support of this bill.

EVC/Provost Camfield began his remarks by stating that he, too, has kept abreast of budget issues at the state level and has engaged in lobbying efforts. Following consultation with Senate committees this year, he will empanel a strategic enrollment committee to set strategy and pathways for admission. He has also been consulting with CAPRA, the Academic Planning Working Group, and the Budget Working Group. In addition, he has worked this year with Director of Space Planning & Analysis Maggie Saunders on policies and procedures for space planning. However, academic planning, budget, and space must be integrated so the campus can engage in complex, long-term modeling. The goal is to establish a robust, transparent, and predictable institutional budget planning process. To accomplish that, the campus is moving towards granting departments control over budgets. To help achieve this major initiative, the EVC/Provost recently issued a call for nominations for a faculty member to serve as the newly-created position of Associate Provost for Academic Planning.

The floor was opened for questions. A faculty member stated that while she supported the plan for long-term modeling, she inquired whether the process will include an evaluative element. EVC/Provost Camfield confirmed that the process will be both projective and evaluative, and will require collaboration from various stakeholders including IRDS. Another faculty member asked for an updated on the proposed 5% increase to faculty salary scales. The Chancellor answered that the proposal is being considered by UC President Napolitano and her decision may have to be postponed until the state budget goes to the Governor.

IV. **General Education Update – UGC Chair Sharping & General Education Program Chair Leppert**

Professors Sharping and Leppert presented a Power Point presentation that included the following updates on Spark seminars:

- Spark highlights:
 - 96 total, 52% offered by Senate faculty

- 19% SOE, 9% SNS, 32% SSHA, 40% MWP
- All but 13 Freshman students enrolled fall or spring as of March 2019
- Student Survey Fall 2018 (516/670 students = 77% responding)
- Spark Faculty Feedback / College Skills
 - Spark faculty Survey and mid-semester feedback '18-'19: concerns about first generation, first year student academic preparedness and non-academic challenges and college expectations
 - Instituted S19 Spark Faculty Orientation
 - IRDS: Student data/characteristics
 - Dean of Students: Non-academic challenges
 - CETL: First year student learning strategies
 - Library: Catcourses support tools for library research
 - IT: e-portfolio training (86% instructor compliance F18)
 - Informing discussions about improving future Spark offerings

Professors Sharping and Leppert also summarized Spark budget information, outlined priorities for the next four years, and summarized which campus stakeholders they consulted with on the GE program and Spark seminars. They ended their presentation by thanking outgoing VPDUE Elizabeth Whitt for her work.

V. **Memorial to the Regents**

The San Francisco Division of the Academic Senate has initiated a petition to the Regents to divest the University's endowment portfolio of all investments in the 200 publicly traded fossil fuel companies with the largest carbon reserves. Members were invited to discuss the Memorial in anticipation of a vote by the Division to be initiated within several days.

Professor Roger Bales (SOE) provided the context for the issue. In 2013, UC President Napolitano announced the Carbon Neutrality Initiative by 2025. UC Merced is making progress to achieve our neutrality by 2020. Broad campus engagement across the UC system is critical but not yet achieved. Professor Bales clarified that this memorial should not divert attention from the broader, UC carbon neutrality initiative. The memorial should encourage faculty creativity. To that end, Professor Bales met with Senate Chair Schnier and the systemwide Senate Chair and Vice Chair to propose a bolder resolution (not to supplant the current memorial, but to follow it) and he seeks UC faculty support. Professor Bales plans to address Academic Council next week.

Chair Schnier announced that in order for the memorial to pass, three Divisions must approve it and at least 35% of Senate faculty must vote in favor. A vote of the faculty will open on Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 am.

VI. **Announcement: 2019-20 Division Chair, Vice Chair & Secretary/Parliamentarian**

Next year's Senate Chair is Professor Tom Hansford (SSHA), Professor Christopher Viney (SOE) will repeat as Secretary/Parliamentarian, and no Senate Vice Chair has been identified at this time.

VII. **Proposed Revisions to Division Regulations**

Graduate Council proposed to revise Part IV. Section II: Master's Degree Requirements of the [Merced Division Regulations](#). The revisions reduce the minimum number of units of approved courses required for a master's degree by comprehensive exam (Plan II) from 30 to 24 and,

commensurately, from 24 to 20 the number of units which must be from graduate-level courses in the 200 series. Language was also proposed to clarify what is meant by the requirement for a general examination, in addition to a thesis, under Plan I. All standing committees and school executive committees of the Division were invited to review the proposal. At its March 4, 2019 meeting, Divisional Council endorsed the proposal presented here for consideration by the Division.

Action: The Merced Division voted to endorse the proposed revision to Part IV. Section II: Master's Degree Requirements of the Merced Division Regulations. The changes are effective May 26, 2019.

VIII. **Standing Committee Chair Reports**

Committee on Academic Planning & Resource Allocation (CAPRA):

- CAPRA's main, overarching activity this year was assisting the EVC/Provost in preparation for a future, campus budget planning process:
 - CAPRA regularly consulted with Director of Space Planning & Analysis Maggie Saunders on backfill space projects and research space needs for 2020. CAPRA wrote a joint memo with LASC (Library & Scholarly Communications Committee) to Division Council regarding the campus space allocation plan that was issued in September. CAPRA shares LASC's concerns about the lack of adequate space for the Library.
 - CAPRA regularly consulted with IRDS on faculty-to-student ratios and faculty credit hours.
 - CAPRA regularly consulted with AVC Romi Kaur and interim VC Mike Riley about updates on the academic budget planning process.
 - CAPRA has two representatives on the re-envisioned Academic Planning Working Group and one representative on the Budget Working Group, and the committee benefited from regular updates.
- In March, CAPRA completed its traditional task of reviewing FTE requests from deans and school executive committees, and issuing its recommendations to the EVC/Provost.
 - In conjunction with both D&E and FWAf earlier this year, CAPRA also recommended to the EVC/Provost that he should reserve 15-20% of FTE (from about 100 FTEs available under the 2020 plan) for purposes of: 1) spousal/partner support and 2) targets of opportunity.

Committee on Academic Personnel (CAP):

- As of the date of this meeting, CAP has reviewed 44 cases so far this academic year:
 - 15 promotions
 - 17 advancements and merits
 - 7 mid-career appraisals
 - 1 Career Equity Review
 - 3 appointments
 - 1 appointment to an Endowed Chair
- CAP reviewed and endorsed the proposed working title change from LPSOE/LSOE to "Teaching Professor".
- This was the inaugural year of Reserve CAP, which is a separate, standing committee that was created by the Senate last year, and is similar to those that exist at other UC campuses. The chair is Professor Jan Wallander. Reserve CAP's function is to review 1)

appeal cases, 2) cases of current CAP members, and 3) cases of CAP members who termed off in the preceding academic year. Reserve CAP convened once this year.

Committee on Committees: (CoC):

- This spring the Committee on Committees has been working diligently to populate next year's committees. CoC is nearly finished and the Senate Office expects to send appointment letters soon. CoC has also been pursuing faculty representatives to both systemwide and Division committees. With respect to systemwide committees, CoC has been working deliberately to increase UC Merced's systemwide presence in faculty governance, focusing on areas where we can best make strong contributions. At campus level, CoC is pursuing representatives to the searches recently announced by the EVC/Provost Camfield. CoC thanked faculty members for their willingness to serve, whether it be on Senate committees, search committees, or other types committees. CoC recognizes the time service takes and appreciates very much the faculty's commitment to shared governance.

Committee for Diversity & Equity (D&E):

- As the committee who established the campus practice of appointing Faculty Equity Advisors, D&E keeps abreast of updates from the current three FEAs.
- D&E met with the FEAs on December 6 to hear their reports on this year's faculty recruitment in the context of their roles. Based on their feedback, D&E encourages the Department Chairs to attend future FEAs presentations and hopes that the UCM leadership will explore ways to empower FEAs to make decisions related to faculty hires. D&E met with EVC/Provost Camfield on March 19 and welcomed his help in making sure FEAs feel empowered.
- D&E was made aware of CAPRA's recommendation to the EVC/Provost on a percentage of lines to hold in reserve for faculty hiring outside the normal process: spousal/partner hires and targets of opportunity hires. D&E and FWF sent a joint memo to CAPRA on this matter, encouraging the EVC/Provost to utilize this reserve to increase faculty diversity in faculty hiring. D&E will revisit this topic following feedback from the EVC/Provost.
- D&E approved a new Senate Award for Contributions to Diversity and hopes that the Senate leadership will advertise all Senate Awards next AY to help increase the pool of nominees.
- D&E has consulted with Associate VPF Valdez, VPF Matlock, and EVC/Provost Camfield on issues related to increasing diversity among the faculty, to enhance faculty recruitment activities including strategies surrounding President's Postdoctoral Fellows, including exploring ways to establish an Endowed Chair focused on diversity, scholarship, research and education.
- D&E is addressing faculty retention, specifically, re-examining the former Provost's proposed guidelines for faculty retention. (His draft guidelines underwent Senate review in the last academic year, and received many critical comments from Senate committees.) D&E wishes to draft retention guidelines in such a way that highlights the various non-monetary reasons why faculty separate from the university, including campus climate. The guidelines were shared with VPF Matlock for feedback prior to being finalized by D&E.
- D&E opined on various campus and systemwide review items, including:
 - Draft UCM Policy for the Establishment of New Schools and Colleges
 - Proposal to Use the Title of Teaching Professor working title, specifically: Assistant Teaching Professor for those holding an LPSOE payroll title, Associate Teaching

Professor for those holding an LSOE payroll title, and Full Teaching Professor for those holding a Sr. LSOE payroll title.

- Revised Presidential Polity on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment
- Revised Senate Bylaw 336 (with regard to the handling of disciplinary cases and when hearings should be scheduled)
- UC Transfer Guarantee Proposal
- Revised Senate Regulation 636.E (regarding the Entry Level Writing Requirement)

Committee on Faculty Welfare & Academic Freedom (FWAF):

- This academic year, FWAF consulted with Alan Coker, the Associate Vice Chancellor, Auxiliaries Enterprises and Fiscal Innovation, on 1) possible expansion of the ECEC, and 2) ways to increase options for after school/holiday/summer child care. AVC Coker is working on finding solutions and FWAF anticipates additional conversations with him next year.
- FWAF consulted with a group of Teaching Professors with regard to teaching load. After this consultation, FWAF submitted a memo to Divisional Council recommending the formation of a policy that sets a campus-based workload standard for the Teaching Professor series in order to 1) establish equity in teaching load and 2) establish clarity for the construction of departmental instructional budgets moving forward.
- FWAF consulted with Associate Vice Provost for the Faculty Zulema Valdez on the administration's efforts to increase diversity in faculty hiring through 1) heavier engagement with the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, 2) diversity-related recruitment and development activities made possible by grant funding, and 3) encouraging the EVC/Provost to keep in reserve a certain percentage of faculty FTE lines for targets of opportunity hires. The proposal for reserve FTE lines was also supported by CAPRA and D&E.
- FWAF submitted a memo to Divisional Council on concerns about proposed parking changes, including higher fees and questions around data management of employee information.
- FWAF receives updates on systemwide business through memberships on the University Committee on Faculty Welfare (Jayson Beaster-Jones) and University Committee on Academic Freedom (Laura Hamilton).
- FWAF receives updates on the campus Police Advisory Board from the Board's faculty representative, Kit Myers.

Library and Scholarly Communications (LASC):

- LASC's main initiative this academic year was to propose a change in its membership model. Currently, the committee is comprised of a chair, and members representing the Senate committees CoR, CAPRA, GC, and UGC. However, LASC believed that library and scholarly communication issues on campus would be better served if its members were instead chosen by CoC, on an at-large basis from the Senate faculty, as is the practice of other Senate committees. After consulting with Divisional Council and Senate committees, LASC recently submitted a formal proposal to revise its bylaws to adopt this at-large membership model.
- LASC worked closely with University Librarian Haipeng Li, who is an ex-officio member of LASC, on communications to the campus on the status of the negotiations between the UC and Elsevier.

- LASC wrote a joint memo with CAPRA to Divisional Council regarding the campus space allocation plan that was issued in September. LASC was, and remains, concerned about the lack of adequate space for the Library.
- LASC was the lead reviewer of the revised Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations.

Committee on Research (CoR):

- One of CoR's main goals this academic year was the revision of the 2014 Senate policy on research units to create a comprehensive policy on the establishment, disestablishment, and review of ORUs. In drafting the ORU policy, CoR members took into account the systemwide policy as well as the ORU policies from other UC campuses. CoR also received input from Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development Sam Traina, who is an ex-officio member of the committee. CoR's draft ORU policy is currently undergoing Senate review.
- In February, CoR completed its annual task of reviewing and awarding Senate faculty grants. This year, the committee funded 27 proposals out of 42 received: 5 SoE, 9 SNS, 13 SSHA. CoR is currently discussing ways to potentially transform the Senate faculty grants program into an incentive-based program.
- CoR has benefited from regular updates from Vice Chancellor Traina on new federal government/agency rules on international research that impact faculty, graduate students, post docs, and visiting scholars.
- At the request of the Office of Research & Economic Development, CoR provided suggested revisions to the current limited submission procedures.
- CoR has consulted with several members of the administration:
 - Campus Biosafety Officer Aparupa Sengupta on updates on reaching compliance in high-risk areas
 - Campus Procurement Director Josh Dubroff on updates on the future Bobcat Buy purchasing system
 - Director of Space Planning & Analysis Maggie Saunders on the campus space allocation plan that was issued to the campus in September.
- CoR is kept informed on systemwide business through membership on the University Committee on Research Policy, including composite benefit rates, reviews of multi-campus research units, and the UC Lab Fees Research program.

Committee on Rules & Elections (CRE):

This semester, the Committee on Rules and Elections convened three times. The principal duties of CRE are to advise senators on all matters of organization, jurisdiction and interpretation of legislation of the Academic Senate; review changes to Bylaws and Regulations; issue legislative rulings; and supervise all Senate Elections. With regard to the latter, all Senators have received a ballot on April 9 and are encouraged to cast their votes by 5:00pm, April 16 (tomorrow) if they have not already done so.

Main campus items considered by CRE this semester included:

- The proposed distance education version of UC Merced Extension's Teacher Preparation Program (CRE found the proposal sound overall, and requested additional clarification about the course unit requirements needed to complete the program.)
- Principles to Guide the Use of Executive Sessions (endorsed)

- Proposal to Change the Name of the Social Sciences and Management department to Economics and Business Management (endorsed)
- Proposal to change the working title of L(P)SOE to Teaching Professor (endorsed)
- The proposed campus Master's Degree Requirements (CRE approved of the additional requirements and asked for more information about proposed student assessments, including comprehensive exams.)
- The proposed policy for the Establishment of New Schools/Colleges (CRE recommended that the scope of institutional development that is part of the establishment of new schools/colleges at UC Merced include greater detail to assessment and review process.)
- The proposed Charge of the Enrollment Strategy Committee (CRE approved the charge, and recommended that previous enrollment-related efforts be considered, as well as additional concerns including the ratio of transfer students to freshman on campus.)
- Proposal for a Psychological Sciences Honors Program (CRE commented on the faculty teaching load.)
- Office of Space Planning Role in the Faculty Hiring Process and the Space Allocation and Assignment Definitions, Process and Standards (CRE commented on logistics, and on the omission of some categories of academic space use.)
- Proposal for a B.S in Economics (endorsed)

CRE opined on the following systemwide review items:

- Proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 336
- BOARS Proposal for a UC Transfer Admission Guarantee
- Proposed revisions to the SVSH Academic Frameworks

Graduate Council (GC):

Graduate Council is charged with establishing policies for graduate education at Merced, and authorizing and supervising all graduate courses and graduate programs of instruction.

Since the last Division Meeting, Graduate Council has met seven times, during which it has

- Approved a request from Public Health to change the degree title of its master's degree from an M.S. to an MSPH
- Approved a Concentration in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the Quantitative Systems and Biology graduate program
- Initiated review of a proposal to establish a Master's of Science degree in Cognitive and Information Sciences
- Endorsed a proposal to establish a distance education version of Extension's existing Teacher Education Program
- Consulted with the EVC/Provost and members of the Budget Development Team on a proposed Graduate Student Funding Model

It has also commented on a number of important review items including

- Draft charge for an Enrollment Strategy Committee
- Proposal for a B.S. in Economics
- Proposed Presidential Policy for Open Access for Theses and Dissertations

Finally, it has initiated a review of the Curriculog course request system, a year after its implementation. It looks forward to responding to what has been learned to improve the course request process.

Undergraduate Council (UGC):

Spring is a busy time for UGC in terms of reviewing courses (about 100 of them) and annual Catalog updates. UGC has still been active in reviewing GE content while the GE Executive Committee works on establishing its own processes for doing so. Members are actively participating in system-wide committees: BOARS, UCEP, UCOPE, and UCIE. UGC also is pulling the load for AFAS and PROC. There have been two program review site visits this spring “Applied Math” and “English” and UGC is looking forward to the final reports on that so that the committee can implement the recommendations therein. There were numerous stimulating non-routine activities come up this spring including: contributing SMART goals, reviewing and approving the Psychological Sciences Honors program. UGC is currently reviewing the Economics Bachelor of Science program.

Additionally, UGC has opined on various systemwide and campus review items.

The hottest UGC-related system-wide issue under discussion throughout this term has been the UC Transfer Guarantee proposal. The UGC leadership has greatly contributed to the discussions at BOARS and UCEP, respectively. We will have to review our Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) requirements for the 21 most popular majors, and adjust them if needed. We have much related work to do internally on Enrollment Strategy and eventually we need to be ready to be expected to meet the 2:1 transfer objective. UCEP is also reviewing a Proposal to Establish an Online B.A. in Business Administration. Finally, once the admissions scandal is settled, it is anticipated that higher education will be addressing fairness of admissions for the next few years. Prior to the scandal UCOP initiated review of how UC uses the SAT/ACT tests and whether any changes were necessary.

Following the reports from the committee chairs, EVC/Provost Camfield announced that the UC has entered into a contract with Cambridge University Press in place of Elsevier. One of the goals is to establish a single-systemwide data base to access all materials.

IX. Senate Awards

- The Dr. Fred Spiess Distinguished Service to the Academic Senate Award - (no nominations received)
- Senate Faculty Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award – Eric Walle (SSHA)
- Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award for Non-Senate Faculty – Emily Reed and Carles Ferrando Valero
- Senate Distinguished Graduate Teaching/Mentorship Award – Miriam Barlow (SNS)
- Senate Distinguished Early Career Research Award - Anand Bala Subramaniam (SOE)
- Senate Distinction in Research Award – Deborah Wiebe (SSHA)
- Senate Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award – Katrina Hoyer (SNS)
- Senate Excellence in Faculty Mentorship Award – Tanya Golash-Boza (SSHA)
- Senate Award for Contributions to Diversity – Clarissa Nobile (SNS)

X. Petitions of Students

No petitions were presented

XI. New Business

No new business was raised

Attest: Kurt Schnier