



**SPRING MEETING OF THE MERCED DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
APRIL 16, 2018**

Pursuant to the call, the Merced Division of the Academic Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on April 16, 2018 in Room 232 of the Kolligian Library, Senate Chair Susan Amussen presiding.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division Chair Amussen welcomed members of the Division and systemwide Chair and Vice Chair, Shane White and Robert May, to the spring Meeting of the Division. Chair White participated by phone. Chair Amussen provided an overview of this year's accomplishments. These included efforts to strengthen shared governance at school and campus levels. At the school level, the focus was on continuing to develop the role of the school executive committees in the management of the schools. At the campus level, three Senate-administration work groups - budget, academic planning, and the academic reorganization of the schools - undertook projects essential to continued campus development. The Budget Work Group produced a carry forward policy and is working on instructional budgets for the coming year. The report of the Academic Reorganization Work Group is currently under review by the Senate, and the Provost and CAPRA and the Deans will be reviewing school academic plans, pending receipt of a final school report. Academic planning will continue into next year.

Proposals for five new departments are currently under campus review, and proposals for four new graduate programs are in various stages of review; one at the Coordinating Council on Graduate Affairs and three on campus. This year the Regents approved the campus's first Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition for the Master of Management program, and the campus approved a new minor in Management Analytics and Decision Making. The General Education Subcommittee has been reviewing hundreds of courses in anticipation of this fall's implementation of the new General Education program. Bylaws for the new GE program are also out for campus review and will be voted on by faculty at end of April. Finally, the reaffirmation of WSCUC accreditation visit went well.

II. SYSTEMWIDE UPDATES

Vice Chair May reported that the UC Regents postponed action on the budget, principally because the system is working with the Legislature to fund a buyout of the proposed tuition increase. In general, there seems to be growing support for the system within the Legislature. However, the Governor still has a line item veto over university's budget, so the budget outcome is as yet unknown, even if the Legislature supports the UC. The May revise of the state budget will be the next significant step in determining next year's budget.

President Napolitano and the President of the Community College System, Eloy Ortiz Oakley, just signed a transfer guarantee MOU. A related goal is to meet the two-to-one native to transfer student ratio at all campuses except Merced. The MOU establishes 21 transfer pathways for guaranteed admission into the UC, with a minimum GPA. It is anticipated that the guarantee will be neutral in terms of enrollment numbers, but will lead to better prepared students.

To address the faculty salary gap, the Senate has proposed a 6% increase to the faculty salary scales and 3% increase in discretionary funding to campus administrations to address other drivers of faculty compensation inequity. The proposal is under discussion.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR¹

The consent calendar, including the agenda and draft minutes of the November 28, 2017 Meeting of the Division, was approved as presented.

IV. CAMPUS UPDATES

Chancellor Leland reported that she will be in Sacramento next week advocating for funding for the UC. The intention is to strengthen the UC's support within the Legislature. Regarding campus climate, the Chancellor stated that it is important that the faculty and administration partner to address emerging issues that reflect the larger national climate. The lack of immigration reform is leaving DACA students vulnerable and in need of support should they lose their ability to work or experience difficulties with immigration. Private funds can be put toward those needs. The Chancellor's recent announcement to the campus, which included a link for donating funds to support DACA students who lose their status, will be circulated again.

The search for a new Provost/EVC will be launched in August 2018. In preparation, the Chancellor is conducting listening tours and soliciting input on the position description. The campus is also launching a search for a Chief Diversity Officer. This position is critical as the climate for people who are marginalized has worsened on campus and nationwide. We also need to continue to diversify the faculty.

The Chancellor thanked the faculty for their contributions to a successful WSCUC review. She also thanked those who have worked to strengthen the relationship between the Senate and the administration. As last year, she plans to hold a Senate-administration retreat near the start of the fall term to identify shared priorities for the coming year.

Provost Peterson reported that the faculty hiring plan for the coming year has been released to the deans. It provides for 16 searches all targeted in specific disciplinary areas. These are in addition to four positions that were advanced this year in anticipation of next year's allocations. Two additional lines for senior faculty have also been reserved to support faculty diversity in response to faculty requests this past year.

Regarding the faculty salary gap, the Provost reported that this is a subject of discussion. Although it is a priority, a primary challenge is funding for the coming year, just as it will be for supporting faculty administrative appointments as the campus transitions to departments in the coming year.

The Director of Space Planning has been consulting with the faculty regarding space planning for 2020, including backfill space. Emerging plans address the faculty desire for proximity to collaborators and account for the need for growth space, while also trying to minimize disruption to faculty. The final plan will have to reflect the cost of the plan to allocate and reallocate space.

Finally, the academic planning efforts will continue into next year. Regarding academic reorganization, it is clear that the transition will begin on July 1 of this year, but that it will be gradual as resources, including staff support, are addressed over time.

V. DISCUSSION: THE FACULTY ROLE IN BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CAMPUS

Chair Amussen stated that this item will be folded into agenda item VII: New Business.

VI. 2018-2019 DIVISION CHAIR, VICE CHAIR & SECRETARY/PARLIAMENTARIAN

CoC Chair Hansford announced that Kurt Schnier will be the 2018-19 Senate Chair, Anne Kelley, the Vice Chair, and Christopher Viney, the Secretary/Parliamentarian.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

¹ Agenda items deemed non-controversial by the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Division, in consultation with the Divisional Council, may be placed on a Consent Calendar under Special Orders. Should the meeting not attain a quorum, the Consent Calendar would be taken as approved. (Quorum = the lesser of 40% or 50 members of the Division.) At the request of any Divisional member, any Consent Calendar item is extracted for consideration under "New Business" later in the agenda. Lin Tian, Secretary/Parliamentarian

- [Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation](#)

CAPRA Vice Chair Trounstine reported that, in March, CAPRA conducted its annual review of faculty FTE requests from the deans and the school executive committees. CAPRA provided its recommended rankings to the Provost/EVC who recently issued his decision on FTE allocation for next year to the deans. CAPRA has representatives on the Academic Planning Working Group, the Budget Working Group, and the Enrollment Management Committee, and has benefitted from updates on these groups' efforts throughout the year. CAPRA regularly consults with the Provost/EVC and with Chief Financial and Administration Officer Veronica Mendez at its meetings. CAPRA consulted with Director of Space Planning and Analysis Maggie Saunders in fall 2017 on the space allocation process for 2020. CAPRA has served as a lead reviewer on all CCGA proposals, proposals for new programs, and proposals for new departments.

[Committee on Academic Personnel](#)

CAP Vice Chair Van Dyke reported that as of today, CAP has reviewed 51 cases. This total includes advancements/merits, appointments, mid-career appraisals, and promotions. CAP will continue meeting through the end of June. CAP submitted a request to the VPF in fall 2017, requesting that the MAPP be revised to clarify the expectations for faculty contributions to diversity, as this is currently not a requirement in the APM.

[Committee on Committees](#)

CoC Chair Hansford reported that, in addition to the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary/Parliamentarian, CoC has appointed, and notified, the slate of AY 2018-19 chairs and vice chairs. By committee, and chair and vice chair, the appointees are

- CAP - Ignacio Lopez-Calvo and Nella Van Dyke
- CAPRA - Jessica Trounstine, chair
- CoR - Michael Scheibner and Jeff Gilger
- D&E – Clarissa Nobile and Asmeret Berhe
- GC – LeRoy Westerling and Hrant Hratchian
- FWAF – Laura Hamilton and Carolin Frank
- LASC – Maria DePrano, Chair
- P&T – Robert Hillman and Tom Joo
- CRE – Christopher Viney and Anna Song
- UGC – Jay Sharping and Catherine Keske
- AFAS – Catherine Keske

With respect the committee leadership slate, CoC still has a few positions to fill and anticipates completing those appointments very soon. At its final meeting of the semester on April 6th, CoC also approved complete slates for all but a handful of committees. Members will receive appointment letters within the next few weeks.

On behalf of CoC, Chair Hansford thanked those who served on committees this year, and/or have agreed to serve next year.

[Committee on Diversity and Equity](#)

D&E Chair Chin reported that D&E has worked to increase attention to diversity in institutional planning processes, including proposals for new programs, periodic program review, and considerations of the Academic Planning Working Group. D&E will be appointing new Faculty Equity Advisors (FEAs) this year. Faculty are encouraged to apply, including experienced FEAs. During the fall semester, D&E and FWAF submitted a joint memo and statement on diversity in faculty hiring.

[Committee on Faculty Welfare and Academic Freedom](#)

FWAF Chair Malloy reported that this year FWAF analyzed the childcare needs survey and sent to the administration a set of recommendations for improving the campus community's access to childcare. FWAF also worked with administration on an initial draft of the campus *Policy on Expressive Activities and Assembly*. FWAF collaborated with D&E on a general statement of principles related to diversity in faculty hiring that was sent to the administration. FWAF proposed to Divisional Council a draft, campus policy on

the recording of classroom lectures, presentations, and discussions by students and external visitors. The policy is being revised in response to comment from Divisional Council. FWF also developed language for the administration to consider in support of faculty when academic freedom is under attack. FWF continues to monitor the efforts of the systemwide Senate to address the faculty salary gap.

Committee on Research

CoR Chair Noelle reported that CoR has completed the annual Senate grants program, funding 26 of 42 proposals. CoR continues to strengthen Senate policy for establishing and reviewing core facilities and centers. CoR has been advocating for adequate discretionary funding for faculty. CoR is also working to establish an Academic Senate oversight body to advocate for increased resources for research computing.

Committee on Rules and Elections

CRE Chair Tian reported that CRE provided recommendations to UGC regarding the role of College One in General Education. CRE approved the revisions to Part II, Section 4 of the Merced Regulations addressing Honors. CRE conducted elections for four members of the Committee on Committees and two At-Large members for Divisional Council. Election results can be found on the Senate website. CRE continues to revise the draft *Recommended Voting Policies in Academic Personnel Cases* in response to comments received through campus review.

Graduate Council

GC Vice Chair Westerling reported that GC has approved the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science CCGA proposal which is now in review at CCGA. GC is currently reviewing three additional CCGA proposals to establish new programs. GC is in the process of revising several policies and procedures related to its core business. These include the policies for proposing new degree programs, appointing graduate students as the instructor of record for upper division undergraduate courses, new and revised course requests, and the establishment of a designated emphasis or concentration. In January, GC established policies and procedures for the approval of non-degree programs proposed by UC Merced Extension. Lastly, GC has been focused on, and anticipates continuing to focus on, issues of graduate student welfare, including timely payments, access to services and benefits for graduate students supported by fellowships, the circumstances and needs of undocumented students, and faculty mentor/student mentee relationships.

Undergraduate Council

UGC Chair Zanzucchi summarized UGC's portfolio and noted that this fall UGC approved a new Philosophy major. UGC has also been working closely with ASUCM on a proposal for a rest and recitation period. The UGC Chair also thanked GC and CAPRA for the productive working relationships that characterized this year.

The Chair of the General Education Subcommittee (GESC) of UGC reported that GESC has been working on the logistics of implementing the GE program. A significant task has been developing the bylaws for a proposed governance structure for the GE program. Those have been referred to UGC and will go out for committee comment. The GESC has also benefited from the support Erin Webb has been providing for the program's implementation.

VIII. ACTION ITEM: PROPOSED REVISIONS TO DIVISION REGULATION

The membership unanimously approved the proposed revisions to [Part II, Section 4: HONORS](#) of the UC Merced Regulations effective May 28, 2018. The revisions add standards for awarding High and Highest Honors in the major.

IX. SENATE AWARDS

Chair Amussen announced the recipients of this year's Senate Awards:

- The Dr. Fred Spiess Distinguished Service to the Academic Senate Award – Anne Zanzucchi
- Senate Faculty Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award – Laura Beaster-Jones and Ashlie Martini
- Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award for Non-Senate Faculty - Mufadhal M. Alkuhlani
- Senate Distinguished Graduate Teaching/Mentorship Award – Michael Cleary
- Senate Distinguished Early Career Research Award – Christine Isborn

- Senate Distinction in Research Award – Ajay Gopinathan
- Senate Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award – YangQuan Chen
- Senate Excellence in Faculty Mentorship Award – Marcos Garcia-Ojeda

X. PETITIONS OF STUDENTS

None.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

The Division unanimously adopted a resolution (appended) to improve the condition for undocumented students at UC Merced put forth by a group of faculty. The resolution asserts that the campus will adopt a process for setting priorities, and annually evaluating each spring the achievement of those priorities, until it is determined that significant barriers to undocumented students are resolved on a campus level. The Chancellor offered her support for the proposal and thanked the authors. A member asked what office would be expected to oversee the annual reporting process. The Chancellor responded that will determined when the process for producing the report is developed. A member asked if CoC would appoint the Senate members of the working group stipulated in the resolution. The Chancellor responded that she will consult with Divisional Council and the faculty group who wrote the resolution. The Senate Chair noted that the chairs of the Senate committees involved with the issues should be included. A member encouraged that students be represented on the committee, noting that it would be responsive to students' desires to have a voice on these issues. The Chancellor concurred and noted that, more generally, the membership should be broadly representation.

Attest: Susan Amussen, Senate Chair

