

# **Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

## **July 14, 2025**

### **Present**

Ken Barish, Division Chair  
Jonathan Eacott, Division Vice Chair  
Jennifer Hughes, Senior Assembly Representative  
Ilya Brookwell, Committee on Information Technology  
Jingsong Zhang, Committee on Academic Personnel  
Peter Sadler, Committee on Undergraduate Admissions  
Salman Asif, Committee on Faculty Welfare  
Stephen Kane for Annie Ditta, Committee on Educational Policy  
Vijayalakshmi Santhakumar, Graduate Council  
Elodie Goodman, BUS Faculty Executive Committee  
Katherine Meltzoff, SOE Faculty Executive Committee  
Wesley Leonard, CHASS Faculty Executive Committee

Cherysa Cortez, Executive Director

### **Absent**

Annie Ditta, Committee on Educational Policy  
Brian Siana, Committee on Physical Resources Planning  
Feng Xu, Secretary/Parliamentarian  
Gareth Funning, Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
Jianzhong Wu, Committee on Preparatory Education  
Juliann Allison, Committee on Planning and Budget  
Rachel Wu, Committee on Research  
Sean Cutler, Committee on Committees  
Harry Tom, CNAS Faculty Executive Committee  
Marcus Kaul, SOM Faculty Executive Committee  
Richard Carpiano, SPP Faculty Executive Committee  
Victor Rodgers, BCOE Faculty Executive Committee

### **Guests**

Darrell Jenerette, Chair, Committee on Charges  
Louis Santiago, Chair, Committee on Privilege and Tenure  
Quinn McFrederick, Chair, Committee on Academic Freedom

### **I. Consent Calendar**

Chair Barish welcomed members. A quorum was not reached at this meeting. Items requiring action/vote will be handled electronically. Council engaged around discussion items during this meeting.

### **II. [Campus Review] Proposal: Round 2 – Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Computer Science Applications (CSA)**

This item was carried over from the June 23, 2025 agenda and will be handled electronically

### **III. [Campus Review] (Consultation): Revision of Retention Processes at UCR (2025)**

Chair Barish introduced the topic for discussion. The comment memos received demonstrate a mixed reception to the proposal. Comments in opposition are strong. During Council's discussion it was clear that more information is needed from the proponent. Chair Barish will contact VPAP Jeske regarding this.

### **IV. [Systemwide Review] Proposal: Proposed Revisions to Academic Personnel Manual (APM) 230 Visiting Appointments**

Council discussed the proposed revisions and the comments from local committees. Council is strongly opposed to the proposed revisions as the elimination of the title "visiting assistant professor" removes an important benefit for those who have recently completed their terminal degrees and are not yet in a tenure-track role. Members discussed that the visiting assistant professor position is an opportunity for those in it to gain experience in a role that includes research, teaching, and service; and offers departments a means to backfill for leaves. The proposed revisions unnecessarily limit candidate pools. Members also noted that no rationale for the core revision was provided, and this raised questions about unstated motivations.

### **V. Chair's Announcements**

Systemwide -

- University of California Interim Faculty Discipline and Retention Policies - Chair Barish provided the background that UC, via UC Provost Newman, has opted to put forth interim guidance regarding faculty discipline and retention procedures prior to the proposed revision's circulation for systemwide Senate 90-day review and comment period, which is scheduled to begin in Fall. It was discussed that the University putting in an interim policy over the summer and before full review is ignoring shared governance. Members discussed at length significant concerns related to the guidelines' language around expressive activity and impacts related to academic freedom. Additionally, members discussed a letter from the Berkeley divisional council to UCOP that stated similar concerns. Members discussed the possibility of the Riverside Executive Council writing its own letter or endorsing Berkeley's. Chair Barish will send Berkeley's letter to members and seek a vote regarding an endorsement. Darrell Jenerette (Chair, Committee on Charges), Louis Santiago (Chair, Committee on Privilege and Tenure), and briefly, Quinn McFrederick (Chair, Committee on Academic Freedom) joined Council for this discussion.
- UC's portion of CA Budget is flat. UCR made cuts last year in advance of this year's budget and for now this will prevent unit level cuts. UCR will be absorbing the cost-of-living increase that is effective August 1 also since UCR made cuts last year.
- Chair Barish encouraged members to attend the open sessions of this week's Regents meeting that begins tomorrow.
- Looking ahead to next year, there may be a push to increase online course offerings. A task force on instructional modalities is planned for at UCOP.
- Academic Council is expecting to receive an interim report from the Academic Senate Task Force on UC Adaptation to Disruptions (UCAD).

- Significant changes are on the horizon for UC health plans. There may be an increase of as much as 10.5% for plan member contributions.

Local -

- UCR will be welcoming the largest ever incoming class for the 2025/2026 academic year. As expected, this will impact space, faculty workload, campus infrastructure, etc. Campus Administration has been and continues to plan and prepare for the class.
- Chair Barish would like to restart Thursday Night Live in The Barn and asked members to consider participating in a committee to that end.
- The Administration will not be pausing the roll out of the local cybersecurity software implementation.

## **VI. Preparation for Meeting with Chancellor Designate S. Jack Hu**

Council discussed topics for discussion for the introductory meeting with new Chancellor S. Jack Hu. This meeting will also include Provost Watkins.

## **V. Roundtable**

Members to give updates on their respective committees.

Executive Session 2:35-2:53pm

**Start:** 1:04pm

**End:** 2:56pm

**Approved:** July 31, 2025