

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM  
MINUTES  
APRIL 3, 2023

PRESENT: I. Zhang, Chair & UCAF Rep.; P. Chung, Ex Officio, Chair of P&T; B. Clare, Ex Officio, Chair of Faculty Welfare

ABSENT: M. King; W. Ren; M. Assaf, ASUCR Student Rep.; Z. Gao, GSA Student Rep.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00 AM.

The minutes of the October 3, 2023 meeting were approved as written.

The Chair and UCR representative to the University Committee on Academic Freedom (UCAF) provided an update from the March 23, 2023 UCAF meeting. The Chair informed the Committee of UCAF's discussion of whether there should be representation from the Committee on Academic Council. The Chair reported that UCAF reviewed the proposed Presidential Policy for anti-discrimination and will recommend that local Academic Freedom Committees have more involvement early on in cases. UCAF discussed the College Board's changes to the African American studies curriculum and considered whether the Committee should make a formal statement. The Chair reported that while UCAF did not have the expertise to comment on the College Board's decision, they are working to draft a statement noting the importance of academics to be free from political influence. UCAF discussed the review process for recruiting new faculty at the campus level and concerns regarding academic freedom. The Chair informed the Committee that UCAF reviewed the proposed Presidential Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer and did not have any concerns related to academic freedom.

The Committee reviewed the proposed Presidential Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer and found no concerns related to their charge of Academic Freedom. The Chair will reach out to the members not present at the meeting to confirm if they have feedback before drafting a response to the Senate Chair.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:39 AM.

Approved: October 4, 2023

Prepared by: Beth Beatty