

The following message is being sent to all Senate members.

UC SANTA BARBARA

Academic Senate

Divisional Chair's Update - January 13, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

The start of our winter quarter was unfortunately disrupted by the extreme weather. Thank you to all instructors who adapted and adjusted their class schedules on very short notice. While there are more storms in the forecast, we hope they will not result in serious impacts on campus operations and teaching schedules, although we are watching the situation closely and are ready to respond if necessary.

Today, I write to convey several updates on recent Senate activities.

Systemwide Analysis of Trends in Faculty Hiring. The UC's compact with Governor Newsom to expand enrollment by 20,000 students by 2030 in exchange for permanent increases in UC's base funding includes a plan to increase faculty numbers. Recently, the Senate's systemwide University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB) undertook an in-depth analysis of faculty hiring across UC. Their [report](#) analyzes trends in UC's hiring of several employee groups across campuses in the 10-year period between 2011 and 2021. The report also compares the hiring of ladder-rank Senate faculty to that of non-Senate lecturers and non-ladder-rank Senate faculty (Lecturers with Security of Employment, or LSOEs), and it analyzes hiring patterns within other instructor and administrative groups. This information will be of interest to faculty and departments concerned about faculty-student ratios now and in future scenarios.

Financial Analysis of Summer Sessions. Our divisional Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) conducted a thorough study of Summer Sessions, specifically, the financial issues and opportunities for our campus. Summer session has become an important point of access for many students to make timely progress towards their degrees, and it plays a key role in helping our campus achieve its annual student FTE commitment. CPB's [report](#) analyzing the funding model for summer classes and

its budgetary impacts across the campus will be of interest to faculty and departments and is a starting point for further campus discussion of how summer sessions can help our campus to fulfill its educational goals while contributing to mitigating the university's budgetary challenges.

New Presidential Policy on Abusive Conduct. The new [Presidential Policy on Abusive Conduct in the Workplace](#) was issued in December and became effective January 1, 2023, following two rounds of systemwide review.

Guidance for Academic Personnel Cases Affected by the Pandemic. The Senate's systemwide University Committee on Academic Personnel has developed [guidance](#) to campus Committees on Academic Personnel (CAPs), departments, and faculty regarding the preparation and review of academic personnel files affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The effects of the pandemic on faculty careers and advancement are expected to persist for several years in some cases. The Senate's guidance follows and was inspired by the [Joint Senate-Administration Mitigating COVID-19 Impacts on Faculty Working Group Final Report](#), released in spring 2022.

Protecting Academic Integrity and Intellectual Property. The Senate's systemwide University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) has expressed concerns related to widespread student use of online services that facilitate cheating, and the integrity of online exams. UCEP provided [recommendations](#) for UC faculty on how to protect the integrity of their courses, combat academic dishonesty, and deal with the illegal online posting of copyrighted course materials.

California Climate Action Research Initiative. The 2023 Request for Proposals for the California Climate Action Research Initiative is now open. This funding opportunity is a partnership between the University and the state of California to invest in climate action research that will have swift and measurable impact. Approx. \$80 million is available in this competition to fund projects that propose action-oriented solutions that address [California's climate goals and needs](#), ensure that local communities are prepared and resilient, and prevent future disasters.

This competition offers grants in two distinct categories:

California Climate Action Seed Grants (\$500,000 - \$2 million/award)

Key Dates:

- Required Letters of Intent Due: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 12:00 pm PT
- Full Proposals Due: Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 12:00 pm PT

California Climate Action Matching Grants (\$2 million - \$10 million/award)

Key Dates:

- Required Letters of Intent Due: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 12:00 pm PT
- Full Proposals Due: Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 12:00 pm PT

The Request for Proposals is linked [here](#). Frequently Asked Questions are linked [here](#), and are updated weekly. Please visit the [UC Research and Innovation](#) website for additional information and other program announcements.

Upcoming Faculty Legislature Meeting. The next meeting of the Faculty Legislature will take place on Thursday, January 26 from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. All members of the Santa Barbara Division are invited to attend. An email with registration information will be distributed a few days before the event.

Faculty Research Lecturer Award. The deadline for nominations for the Faculty Research Lecturer Award is February 4, 2023. Please consider recognizing one of our talented and hardworking colleagues with a nomination. See the Senate [website](#) for details on the procedure.

Call for Volunteers. Senate faculty should expect to receive a Call for Volunteers for Senate service in 2023-24 in the coming weeks. We encourage you to respond and take advantage of this opportunity to participate in shared governance.

Sincerely,

Susannah Scott
Divisional Chair



Copyright © 2021
The Regents of the University of California.
All Rights Reserved.