

University Faculty Council Meeting (held remotely)
February 23, 2023, 9:30am
Zoom link: <https://pepperdine.zoom.us/j/84007505153>

AGENDA

- I. Opening prayer.
- II. Very brief introductions (or, for the most part, reintroductions): Name and school or position.
- III. Professor Harjoto: item from PGBS regarding processes for awarding academic rank and tenure for incoming deans and for mid to senior level new faculty hires.
- IV. Update on status of Academic Freedom document that was submitted to the faculties and approved by the faculties of each school except GSEP. On a tie vote of 20 in favor, 20 opposed, and 5 abstentions, the GSEP faculty failed to approve the document. Dr. Natasha Thapar-Olmos, president of the GSEP faculty association, reports that the faculty association has decided to let that vote stand – not to take another vote – and not to vote separately on each of the three parts of the document.

The UFC cover memorandum sent to the schools along with the Academic Freedom document provided that:

 The UFC will present the document to the President and Provost for their consideration (and ultimately the consideration of the Board of Regents) only if the faculties of all five schools approve the document.

 ...

 If the document ultimately fails to receive the approval of the faculties of all five schools, then the UFC's role will be at an end. The matter would be in the hands of the President and Provost, who would decide whether to move forward and how that might be done.

The UFC's role with regard to the Academic Freedom document is therefore at an end. Faculty members are free to express their views to the President and Provost, but not on behalf of the UFC.
- V. Discussion (a) of how academic integrity may be threatened here by artificial intelligence systems and (b) of any plans to address the issue.
- VI. Discussion of any other issues that UFC members (including the President and Provost) may wish to have discussed.
- VII. Report on the work being done by the committee convened by the Provost to consider how the university might respond to questions asked by WASC, including questions about shared governance.
- VIII. Reports (if any) from UFC members who are liaisons to the various university committees.
- IX. Adjournment.