UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC COMPUTING AND COMMUNICATIONS
Friday, December 12, 2025

Meeting Minutes

I. Chair's announcements and committee discussion

UCACC Chair Ilya Brookwell reviewed the agenda, noting that the committee would hear from ITS about plans for bringing faculty into conversations about privacy and data management standards for endpoint detection and response efforts.

Chair Brookwell was invited to a security briefing for a recent social-engineering type of attack and noted the challenge of briefing other faculty members without exposing confidential information. This is related to UCACC members' ability to report back what it learned from UCOP to local Senates. The recent attempt was apparently uncovered by cybersecurity measures, which were also able to freeze and isolate the attack at the system level.

UC Berkeley's Senate IT committee may provide an example for other divisions. The committee gets regular briefings from IT administrators about how the campus is addressing attacks via EDR and other means. The message from IT administrators should be one of security and protection to help build trust. Berkeley and other campuses have privacy officers who should be monitoring any surveillance or breaches of privacy. Faculty involvement should at all divisions should be regular and programmatic.

Artificial Intelligence has commanded the conversation at CIO Council meetings, particularly around infrastructure provision and how UC might invest in a resource that is financially viable. Chair Brookwell also briefly mentioned UCI's [Scholar Connect](#) platform, which is trained on faculty CVs.

- **Action:** Meeting minutes from 10/10/2025 were approved

II. Consultation with UCOP's Information Technology Services
Van Williams, Vice President, UC Chief Information Officer
Monte Ratzlaff, Chief Information Security Officer

1. Cybersecurity

There will be a new mix of vendors with whom UC contracts for network security systems and services. Letters of intent have been sent to suppliers. ITS is now formulating a communications plan for the broader UC community. Deployment of new systems will vary by location. Some have just finished implementing Trellix and are not ready to change. ITS will coordinate with locations on timing and local readiness, and will maintain bridge contracts with Trellix as needed.

Regarding privacy and data security measures, all vendors are required to abide by the UC Electronic Security Policy (ECP) and procurement Appendix DS (Data Security). The conditions are part of vendor contracts. Oversight of suppliers is accomplished through regular reporting both from the vendors and the locations.

Communication channels with faculty continues to be a concern to administrators, especially considering recent resolutions, statements, and challenges from faculty groups. Information sharing across UC is never simple, and the need to balance reporting with confidentiality brings additional concerns.

UCACC members had questions about campus flexibility for security measures (beyond systemwide requirements, additional measures are determined by locations) and protections against federal government intervention (IT would refer to UC's Electronic Communications Policy and Appendix DS; UC Legal is responsible for security safeguards in the legal realm).

The IT administrators suggested that UCACC function as the locus for faculty oversight. It was noted that inclusion of representatives who have legal and privacy positions would be valuable.

2. Artificial intelligence

President Milliken is interested in exploring AI initiatives. The administration is looking at potential shared data centers and collaborations across campuses. There are models at other universities, including the University of Florida and the Massachusetts High Performance Green Computing Center. These centers function as ways to connect people and increase resource availability, especially for campuses who are not developing their own. In the long term, building custom UC data centers makes sense, although the cost seems prohibitive in the short term.

3. IT Accessibility Policy

To implement the upcoming IT Accessibility Policy, IT units are putting more staff in place, but resources are limited. UCOP staff will serve in a risk assessment role and a systemwide coordinator will be hired. The new policy aligns with new federal legal requirements that the university must comply with.

4. IS-3 Policy Revision

UC ITS has engaged UC Berkeley's Information Security Policy Program Manager Julie Goldstein to work on drafting a more streamlined version of the UC Information Security policy to replace the current "IS-3." The policy will use the NIST CSF framework, with a draft expected in April. The policy itself will not change, but procedures and guidance will be updated and moved to accompanying materials.

UCACC members suggested foregrounding academic principles and goals in the revision of IS-3.

III. Research Data Management at UCSF
Associate Chief Information Officer for Research at UCSF Mandy Terrill was unable to join the meeting. This item will be postponed to a future meeting.

IV. Consultation with Academic Senate Leadership
Academic Council Chair Ahmet Palazoglu and Vice Chair Susannah Scott joined the meeting to provide updates on the current issues facing the Academic Senate.

The Academic Council and Board of Regents held meetings in November. Notable developments for the university included a successful lawsuit regarding the DOJ's UCLA demand letter. The UC President also confirmed the continuation of the hiring incentive aspect of the Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) after some uncertainty. The Academic Council endorsed revisions to APM015 and 016, which will be discussed and endorsed by the Academic Assembly in January, followed by approval by the Regents. The Board of Regents approved a budget request to the state for full restoration of deferred funds under the compact with the governor and one-time capital funds of $1.4 billion, while renewing the cohort tuition plan. A joint task force on the Performance of Undergraduate Degree Programs is developing guidelines for online programs following principles established by the University Committee on Educational Policy.

The university entered into labor agreements with two of its unions: UPTE and CNA. Two other union negotiations – with AFSME and UAW – are ongoing. Provost Newman sends monthly updates on the UAW negotiations.

Members of the Academic Senate's Task Force on UC Adaptations to Disruptions (UCAD) are now incorporating feedback on the interim report into a final report, which will be completed in January. Meanwhile, a successor task force was formed in conjunction with the administration (UCAD Plus) that is scheduled to complete its work in January 2027. A letter was sent to all faculty announcing the launch, and monthly updates will be distributed.

Regarding faculty cybersecurity concerns, Chair Palazoglu noted that President Milliken is taking a deliberate approach, and has paused UC-wide communications about EDR until he can better coordinate the response. President Milliken has been very engaged and responsive to the Academic Senate, both formally and informally.

V. UCACC Comments on New IT Accessibility Policy

UCACC members discussed the proposed IT Accessibility Policy in preparation for sending formal comments to the Senate chair. Members acknowledged that the policy was mandated by law but noted that there seemed to be no plan from UC, although the policy draft had been circulating for a while. There is concern about equity across campuses in implementing the policy. Some locations have already reassigned IT staff into new positions, and there is fear that services will be reduced in other crucial areas. Allowing two years just to find individuals to develop basic training on IT accessibility seems unnecessarily lengthy. Some campuses are already taking actions to implement the policy, such as offering software to check accessibility in Canvas.

VI. Committee Discussion and Campus Reports

UC Riverside: UCR will hire students and train them to help faculty with accessibility compliance. The local committee made practical suggestions for the IT administrators, such as informing faculty about actions being taken automatically and how to take simple steps. The locus for support on campus is the education support group. There is ongoing frustration with cybersecurity and concerns about privacy. The campus is interested in exploring opportunities for AI in research and in the classroom.

UC Berkeley: The rollout of EDR at Berkeley has been slow. The campus is refreshing its network to be partitioned, with the idea that every hardware port and wifi connection will be authenticated to specific subnets. UC Berkeley will start to offer more data storage for faculty, with a phased rollout. The campus continues its planning for a data center at the NASA Ames site at Moffett Field, with a target date of 2027. The CIT committee might be formally expanded to encompass disruptive technologies (e.g., AI) and added to the Divisional Council. This would mean more committee members and more staff support.

UCLA: The local committee has been discussing AI and cybersecurity. UCLA has a very distributed IT maintenance and support structure that has led to challenges in shared governance. A recent resolution highlighted faculty concerns around campus administration of IT. The committee is grappling with the concept of whether "academic computing" can be distinct from administrative computing when even administrative technology can have a big impact on academics. There is frustration with administrative committees that invite a single faculty member and consider that to be consultation with the faculty. The Senate is asking for an "academic impact statement" to be included with new policy rollouts.

UC Davis: Discussions at the local committee have focused on the proposed IT Accessibility Policy, cybersecurity and the campus' Information Security Management Plan. There has also been discussion of the UC Electronic Communications Policy and the protections included in it, video cameras on campus, and the administrative and educational uses of AI tools.

UC Irvine: UCI's local committee (which also covers research and libraries) discussed the IT Accessibility policy and educational uses of AI.

UC Santa Barbara: Like the others, UCSB's committee also primarily discussed IT accessibility and cybersecurity. UCSB may elevate its CIT into a top-level committee. UCSB has a separate committee focused on AI.

UC San Diego: UCSD's implementation of EDR is called Secure Connect and there is a public-facing website. UCSD's CIO attends all meetings of the local committee and shares information about cybersecurity. These efforts help to build trust and limit resistance. UCSD is conducting a huge student database update that has faculty involvement and will be completed in 2026. The committee has discussed AI and education, and the environmental impact of AI usage. TritonGPT is UCSD's in-house generative-AI tool that provides institution-aware assistance within the university's environment.

UC Merced: UCM has a digital accessibility coordinator currently in place. The campus has established priorities for implementation of the IT Accessibility Policy, focusing first on public facing and course websites. There has been communication across the campus and IT is working with faculty.

UC Santa Cruz: The Vice Chancellor for IT was hired away by UC Davis, so the position is now open. CIT is pushing back against a new license plate reader technology, citing lack of rationale for data retention and overall justification. Some faculty have expressed frustration around AI, including lack of consultation unclear expertise on faculty committees. The Senate will likely form a special committee or task force – which can advise CIT – to be composed of subject experts.

Vice Chair Lisa Yeo informed the group that the report of the Faculty AI Workgroup will be reviewed by the Academic Council next week.

Meeting adjourned: 2:30pm
Meeting minutes drafted by: Joanne Miller, Committee Analyst
Attest: Ilya Brookwell, UCACC Chair

Meeting participants:
Ilya Brookwell (Chair, UCR), Lisa Yeo (Vice Chair, UCM), John Kubiatowicz (Berkeley), Matt Bishop (Davis alternate), Iftekhar Ahmed (Irvine), Gregory Leazer (UCLA), Yiwei Wang (Merced), Cathy Lussier (Riverside), Christopher Kruegel (Santa Barbara), Barry Grant (San Diego), Jerome Fiechter (Santa Cruz), Ahmet Palazoglu (Academic Council Chair), Susannah Scott (Academic Council Vice Chair), Van Williams (Chief Information Officer and VP for Information Technology Services), Monte Ratzlaff (UC Chief Information Security Officer)