

**VII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)**

**B. Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) (Oral Report, Action)**

**Barbara Sawrey, Chair**

**Report on Admission and Eligibility and other BOARS activities**

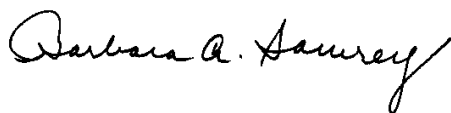
The following eligibility principles were approved by the Academic Council on March 31, 2004 and are presented here for the Assembly's approval.

**Dear Academic Assembly Members:**

Attached to this preface is a document from the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) outlining the principles we have been using this year in considering our recommendations to the Academic Senate and Regents for adjusting eligibility to the University of California. The long overdue report from the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) should be available in May, after which time BOARS will come forward with detailed recommendations that should bring us close to the eligibility rate of 12.5% of graduating high school students, as called for in the State's Master Plan. I will report orally at the May Assembly meeting with as much specificity as I can at that time.

Please keep in mind as you read these principles that eligibility is the first step in admissions. Eligible students apply to one or more UC campuses of their own choosing, and each campus in turn uses Comprehensive Review to select from among its applicants.

Best regards,



Barbara Sawrey  
BOARS Chair, 2002-04

**Eligibility Principles**

March 15, 2004

Introduction

As part of its charge, BOARS regularly reviews the eligibility criteria for the University of California (Academic Senate Bylaw 145 B.2.). Consideration of adjustments to the criteria recently have been prompted by changes in the national standardized tests, changes to UC's requirement for high school course patterns, and anticipated results of a CPEC study that is likely to indicate that more than 12.5% of high school graduates (the number called for in the California Master Plan) are eligible for UC. Recommendations for change are initiated with BOARS and are presented to the Academic Assembly, which in turn makes recommendations to the Board of Regents.

During academic year 2003-04 BOARS has been preparing for the May 2004 release of a CPEC study of eligibility. BOARS has been reviewing past methodology for setting criteria, and has been

examining ways in which UC might adjust those criteria. The assumption is that UC will need to reduce its pool to bring it back to the 12.5% point.

One result of BOARS' deliberations is a set of principles to guide our formulation of eligibility. The committee believes it is helpful to state these principles so that others can understand the philosophy behind BOARS' final recommendations. These principles may also serve to assist the Academic Senate in future consideration of changes to the eligibility criteria.

### General Statement

In considering criteria for eligibility to the University of California BOARS assigns primary importance to quantitative criteria that are known to correlate with success at the university. (In the past this has been operationalized by choosing the criteria to predict a minimum 70-75% chance of achieving a C average (2.0 GPA) in the freshman year.) The criteria should also be clear and understandable to the public, and provide a stable goal for high schools and students to pursue. BOARS recognizes that the University's eligibility criteria serve to motivate students to achieve, and high schools to offer rigorous courses.

Though the scores on the ACT with Writing and new SAT exams will be accepted for an interim period, beginning in 2006, it is important to continuously monitor and evaluate the role of test scores in the eligibility criteria.

BOARS favors continued development of measures that can assess the depth and breadth of students' knowledge, as well as other qualities that may correlate with academic success at the University of California.

### Principles

1. Students should be able to determine whether they have met the criteria for eligibility prior to application.
2. The University of California should be accessible to the best students from every high school in the State.
3. The high school record in a-g courses should retain the highest importance among the criteria.
4. We should continue to provide admission paths for students who may be educated in non-traditional schools and programs, and for those who might not meet statewide eligibility.
5. BOARS should monitor statewide high school examinations and other tests that might in the future be considered for helping determine eligibility to UC.
6. The definition of eligibility should be monitored and adjusted on a regular basis to ensure compliance with UC admissions goals.