**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATIONAL POLICY**

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:
The University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) met by videoconference ten times and one time in-person in Academic Year 2022-2023 to conduct business with respect to its duties as outlined in Senate Bylaw 170 and in the Universitywide Review Processes for Academic Programs, Academic Units, and Research Units (the "Compendium"). The major activities of the committee and the issues it addressed this year are outlined briefly, as follows.

PRINCIPLES FOR ONLINE MAJORS AND PROGRAMS
Last year's white paper, "Understanding Online Undergraduate Degree Programs: Definitions, Status, Process, and Questions at the University of California," set the stage for UCEP to resume work on principles for online majors and programs. In addition to the white paper, the principles were informed by the 2020 Online Undergraduate Degree Program Task Force report, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission's (WSCUC) Substantive Change Manual, and the Federal Code of Regulations. The principles are offered in the context of newly developing online majors, but they apply equally to in-person degree programs that use online tools and are intended to provide faculty and departments with insight into ways of adapting new technologies that ensure rigor, engagement, and academic integrity. UCEP transmitted the principles to Academic Council in June and the document was endorsed and transmitted to the divisional Senates.

STANDARD TERMINOLOGY FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION
Members of UCEP collaborated with members of the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs to develop standard terminology related to distance education courses. The terminology is aligned with Federal regulations and WSCUC requirements and is intended to facilitate a shared understanding of the terms. Campuses do not have to adopt this terminology, but they are encouraged to use these terms when describing distance education courses in proposals to the systemwide Senate.

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWING PROPOSALS FOR NEW SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
Per Senate Bylaw 170.B.2, UCEP is charged with approving the establishment of new undergraduate schools and colleges. Although its long-standing role in reviewing proposals is described in the Compendium, the committee did not have a standard template to facilitate this work. In October, members began developing a template based on the guidelines for proposal reviews used by the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA). The template was fine-tuned over the course of the year as the committee gleaned insight from its review of pre-proposals and proposals for new programs. The guidelines, finalized in June, will be posted on UCEP's website, and it is a living document that may be updated in the future.

PROPOSED RESIDENCY AMENDMENT TO SENATE REGULATION 630.E
In September, UCEP's proposed revisions to Senate Regulation (SR) 630.E to clarify the residency requirement for an undergraduate bachelor's degree were sent out for systemwide review and the committee considered the feedback from the review in December. A significant change was reframing SR 630.E as a campus experience requirement, and the revision was grounded in WSCUC expectations that campuses track how many courses being taught are more than 50% online. The amendment closes

the loophole previously identified by UCEP that currently allows for the potential creation of a fully online degree programs through individually approved online courses while providing a pathway for campuses to experiment with online minors and majors. UCEP also proposed an additional revision to the definition of residency in SR 610 to align it with the new SR 630.E. A revised proposal was endorsed by Academic Council in January and subsequently endorsed by Academic Assembly in February.

REVIEW OF THE UC SANTA CRUZ ONLINE MAJOR IN CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES
UCEP received UC Santa Cruz's proposal for a two-year Creative Technologies Bachelor of Arts degree program in May 2022, but it was not reviewed until this academic year. Since this degree was originally proposed as a fully online degree, UCEP members spent considerable time discussing the criteria for review in the fall/winter. The lead reviewers identified the proposed program's central strengths and weaknesses, and the committee sent the campus a substantial list of questions in February. UCSC communicated a thorough and comprehensive reply to those questions in April and the proposers modified the program to include in-person course options to fulfill the campus experience requirement outlined in SR 630.E. The proposers also addressed issues related to WSCUC accreditation.

Members of UCEP were pleased to see that the proposal was responsive to the concerns raised and voted to endorse the revised proposal unanimously in May. The committee believes that the Creative Technologies program will set a high bar for future online degree programs. UCEP communicated its approval to Academic Council in June. Council recognized that although the current version of the Compendium authored in 2014 did not anticipate the specific issue of fully online degrees or majors, and those kinds of programs are not explicitly addressed in the Compendium review processes, the "first of its kind" nature of UCSC's proposed program seemed to necessitate a system-level review and approval to align with the spirit, if not the exact wording, of the Compendium.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
In June, UCEP consulted with the director of UC San Diego's Academic Integrity Office about recent developments related to contract cheating, including the emergence of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI). The director highlighted the need to provide guidance to faculty and students regarding the utilization of GenAI and recommended that the committee advocate that the Office of the President provide funding to support testing centers at every campus that are available to all students. UCEP also updated its annual reminder about academic integrity and intellectual property which will be distributed to the divisions in the fall.

OTHER ISSUES AND ADDITIONAL BUSINESS
In response to requests for formal comment from the Academic Council, UCEP issued views on the following:
- Second systemwide review of the proposed Presidential Abusive Conduct policy
- Second systemwide review of proposed revisions to APM 210 and APM 671
- Proposed Senate Regulation 479 – the California General Education Transfer Curriculum
- Systemwide review of the Entry Level Writing Requirement Task Force report and recommendations
- UC Berkely's Master of Advanced Study in Engineering proposal
- UC Irvine's School of Population and Public Health proposal
- UC Berkeley's College of Computing, Data Science, and Society proposal
- UC San Diego's School of Computing, Information and Data Science pre-proposal

UCEP touched on a variety of other issues related to the business of the Academic Council, Academic Assembly, the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates, and the work of campus Committees on Educational Policy/Undergraduate Councils.

UCEP REPRESENTATION
UCEP Chair Cocco represented the committee at meetings of the Academic Council and Academic Assembly. Chair Cocco also participated on the Provost's monthly budget briefing teleconferences and the Academic Planning Council (APC). UCEP was represented by Vice Chair Bawn on the APC's Workgroup on the Future of Undergraduate Education; by Katie Harris on the Academic Council Special Committee on Transfer Issues; by David Cuthbert on the UC Education Abroad Program Advisory; and by Holley Moyes on the UC Washington Center's Academic Advisory Council.

COMMITTEE CONSULTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
UCEP benefited from consultation with and reports from: Pamela Brown, Vice President, Institutional Research and Academic Planning (IRAP); Todd Greenspan, Executive Advisor, Academic Planning and Policy Development, IRAP; Carmen Corona, Director, Academic Planning and Policy, IRAP; Ethan Savage, Academic Planning and Policy Analyst, IRAP; and Ellen Osmundson, Program Director, UC Online, Graduate, Undergraduate and Equity Affairs.

In addition, UCEP consulted the Academic Senate chair and vice-chair, who updated the committee on issues facing the Academic Council and Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

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