UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA   **ACADEMIC SENATE**
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
Videoconference Minutes
Monday, June 6, 2022

Attending: Mary Lynch, Chair (UCSF), Katheryn Russ, Vice Chair (UCD), Katie Stirling-Harris (UCD), Melanie Cocco (UCI), Kathleen Bawn (UCLA), Holley Moyes (UCM), Bryan Wong (UCR), David Paul (UCSB), Tracy Larrabee (UCSC), Todd Greenspan (Director, IRAP, UCOP), Ethan Savage (Analyst, IRAP), Robert Horwitz (Chair, Academic Senate), Brenda Abrams (Principal Policy Analyst, Academic Senate)

I.   Consultation with the Academic Senate Office
- *Robert Horwitz, Chair, Academic Senate*
- *Susan Cochran, Vice Chair, Academic Senate*

o   UC has a compact with the governor that includes a 5% increase to the operating budget for the next five years provided that UC meets targets for increasing enrollment, student success and intersegmental cooperation.

o   It is anticipated that there will be a 4% increase to on-scale faculty salaries across the system and a 1.5% increase in funding for diversity and retention which could go to off-scale salaries.

o   The Office of the President (UCOP) is creating a central bank to ease pressure on campuses when they are borrowing money.

o   The divisional Senates' final votes on the climate Memorial will be known soon.

o   The Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates approved a revised general education transfer curriculum to meet the requirement for a single pathway called for by Assembly Bill (AB) 928. The next phase of AB 928 will focus on the associate degrees for transfer.

o   Academic Council discussed a proposal for the high school Ethnic Studies requirement and sent this matter back to the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools.

o   Council endorsed recommendations from the systemwide Committee on Academic Freedom regarding posting political statements on department websites. This issue remains unsettled, and Senate leadership will discuss it with UC Legal today. The Regents may want to make the websites "information only" which would conflict with efforts to make research visible.

o   In May, Council discussed fully online undergraduate degrees and Senate leadership presented a framework that would allow online courses, online minors and online majors. Online degrees may be allowed if the residency requirement is restored. Senate leadership would like Council to see the UCSC Creative Technologies and the UCI Business School proposals but the relevant parties at UCI and UCSC need to grant permission.

o   UC Legal has determined that a litigation strategy against third party cheating websites is unlikely to succeed. Last week, Senate leadership met with UC Legal and outside counsel with expertise in intellectual property. The idea is to coordinate with the California Community Colleges, California State University, and students to propose a revision to the relevant California Education Code that prohibits the sale of course materials.

o   Chair Horwitz thanked UCEP for its work on a variety of difficult issues this year.

II.   Chair's Updates and Announcements

Chair Lynch has been appointed as the Associate Dean of Nursing at UCSF and will step down as UCEP's chair on July 1st. Vice Chair Russ has been appointed to the UCD divisional vice chair position and will not serve as UCEP's chair in 2022-2023, but the UCI representative has agreed to serve as the chair in the upcoming year.

The draft presidential policy on abusive conduct has been distributed for a second systemwide review and Chair Lynch summarized UCEP's feedback in response to the first review. The Academic Planning Council's (APC) working group on the future of undergraduate education is just setting up the foundation for its work and the group is expected to produce its report in April or May 2023. Chair Lynch pointed out that students' mental health will have an impact on faculty in the next few academic years. Students are vulnerable and struggling, which may lead them to engage in behaviors faculty are not prepared to manage. Faculty should think about how they would handle a situation involving a distressed student and ensure they know about the resources to help them.

III.   Consent Calendar

Action: UCEP's May 2, 2022 videoconference minutes were approved.

IV.   Draft Proposed Senate Regulation to Close the Loophole Related to Online Courses and Degrees
- *Kadee Russ, Vice Chair, UCEP*

On May 25th, Council determined that the residency requirement should be reinstated and Vice Chair Russ has drafted an amendment to Senate Regulation (SR) 630. After considering UCEP's proposals for closing the loophole, Council decided that being on campus is essential for students' academic enrichment, to creating a sense of belonging, and to ensuring students have access to the full range of services through their college and the campus as a whole. Vice Chair Russ explained that SR 610 defines residency for both undergraduates and graduates, and the regulation was revised to clarify that residency is not based on the students' geographic location.

Council would like UCEP to propose an amendment to SR 630 for consideration on June 22nd. Vice Chair Russ explained that a fully online undergraduate degree programs (OUDPs) would not be possible without an exemption from the new requirement. The requirement would not prevent campuses from offering online majors, nor would it interfere with pedagogical innovation.

Discussion: There is a concern that the residency requirement will prevent UCSC's Creative Technologies proposal from being approved, and Vice Chair Russ remarked that Council understands UCSC's position. UCI's CEP is supportive of requiring students to be on campus for a certain period of time even if they are in an OUDP. The proposal does not include a process for requesting an exemption. Chair Lynch recommended that UCSC provide an addendum to its proposal indicating the division's concerns about the residency requirement. One issue that Chair Horwitz has raised is that the two OUDPs proposed to date are targeted to transfer students who are among the most vulnerable students on UC campuses. Transfer students need access to on-campus services and should be integrated into the campus community but OUDPs may instead disenfranchise these students.

A member argued that students should be allowed to take excellent online degree programs. It was noted that SR 614 provides an exception to the residency requirement for students in the armed services, but Vice Chair Russ does not think that Council would approve an exception for online degrees at this time.

Action: Seven members voted in favor of sending the proposed amendment of the residency requirement to Academic Council and two members voted against.

V.   Next Steps: Online Undergraduate Degree Programs Criteria and White Paper

Chair Lynch reviewed the thematic analysis of primary considerations for OUDPs. A number of questions about administrative issues were sent to the APC for deliberation. The analysis will again be shared with Senate leadership and possibly with Academic Council. UCEP should refer to the campus feedback presented in the analysis during future discussions.

Discussion: Vice Chair Russ will include the thematic analysis in the white paper, and Chair Lynch indicated that the UCI representative can share the white paper with the School of Business to inform its revised proposal for an OUDP. The representative suggested that the approval process UCEP eventually establishes should ask proposers to list the courses to be offered and to indicate the number of hours per week when students will be able to speak to an instructor in real time. According to the UCI representative, a shortcoming of the School of Business's plan is that all interaction will be asynchronous. Students in the School of Business online program will be able to post questions to a discussion board but faculty do not guarantee that questions will be answered in a timely manner. In addition, there is only one office hour a week and there are no alternatives for students who are not available at that time. Vice Chair Russ explained that the white paper is an informational document. It shall be sent to Council and that committee will decide if it should be distributed to the campuses.

VI.   Consultation with Institutional Research and Academic Planning
- *Todd Greenspan, Director, Academic Planning, IRAP*
- *Ethan Savage, Analyst, Academic Planning, IRAP*

IRAP has been focusing on enrollment data and the finalized data for 2021-2022 is now available. The headcount was about 500 students below what IRAP estimated, meaning there were 2k more students than last year. However, the FTE was 3600 below what was projected. UC was on the verge of securing state funding for the 5k unfunded students but the decline of 3600 resulted in there being only 1400 unfunded students. IRAP is exploring the different reasons for the decline as well as figuring out how this impacts future projections. Both houses of the legislature want UC to grow by about 6k a year over the next two years, and the chancellors are discussing the enrollment growth plan for 2030.

Analyst Savage reported that the degree completion program funding was finalized. UCD requested roughly $4.8M and UCSD Extension requested $250k to continue its market demand research, and both of these requests were approved. A letter from the proposal review committee was sent to the provost who will transmit the memo to President Drake. The next step will be to work with the Department of Finance and joint legislative Budget Committee to get the funds released to the campuses.

Analyst Savage shared the charge to the APC's working group on the future of undergraduate education. The working group is chaired by Linda Adler-Kassner from UCSB and Karen Bales from UCD, and it includes members of the APC, a teaching and learning center director, a representative from a School of Education, and two student representatives, one of whom is a transfer student. In the fall, five subgroups will each consider a strategic question. A report with recommendations will be submitted to President Drake in April or May 2023 and there may be a convening with various stakeholders.

VII.   Consultation with UC Online

This consultation did not occur.

VIII.   Update on UC Online Advisory Committee and Concerns about UC Online

The April presentation of enrollment and completion data by UC Online Program Director Osmundson was somewhat confusing. The analyst shared the presentation with Vice Chair Cochran who sent the program director several questions in an effort to clarify the data. Vice Chair Russ reported on the May 11th meeting of the UC Online Advisory Council. Breakout groups recorded their input about the program's data and many of the comments echoed UCEP's observations. Advisory Council members were asked to provide input on the characteristics of the faculty director who is to be hired to run the program. Members suggested that the faculty director should have experience with assessment and course development. It was noted that a faculty member who has been a department chair would have relevant experience.

Action: Chair Lynch will prepare a memo outlining UCEP's recommendations for UC Online's data collection and reporting.

IX.   Member Items/New Business

Members acknowledged Chair Lynch's leadership and Chair Lynch thanked the committee members for their work throughout this academic year.

X.   Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

Videoconference adjourned at: 12:40 PM
Minutes prepared by: Brenda Abrams
Attest: Kadee Russ