

**BOARD OF ADMISSIONS AND RELATIONS WITH SCHOOLS (BOARS)  
ANNUAL REPORT 2006-07**

**TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:**

Under Senate Bylaw 145, the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) is responsible for advising the President and appropriate Senate agencies on matters relating to admissions of undergraduate students and recommending to the Assembly the admissions criteria for undergraduate status. BOARS has three key subcommittees that are charged with making recommendations and reporting to the parent committee – the Articulation and Evaluation Subcommittee, the Admissions Testing Subcommittee, and the Statistical Analysis Subcommittee. BOARS held ten meetings during the 2006-07 academic year, which included joint meetings with California State University Admissions Advisory Council in June, and the UC Admissions Directors in July. Highlights of the committee’s activities and accomplishments are noted in this report.

**Proposal to Reform UC Freshman Eligibility Policy**

Over the past several years, the concept of UC eligibility has come under scrutiny by BOARS and others. Beginning in October 2006, BOARS committed itself to fundamental reform of UC’s eligibility construct. Identifying a number of concerns with the current eligibility construct, BOARS held discussions regarding this topic during all of its meetings this year to review draft working papers and analytic materials, and discuss the challenges ahead in developing, advocating for, and implementing eligibility reform. BOARS members collected feedback from their campus admissions committees about the potential impact of eligibility reform on their comprehensive review process; identified key issues related to the use of tests in UC admissions policy; worked on continued refinement of analytic data from UCOP Admissions and Research Evaluation staff members; and paid special attention to the Comprehensive Review Guidelines, potential impacts on the referral pool, and how a reformed eligibility policy would comply with the California Master Plan for Higher Education. BOARS Chair Rashid contributed unique efforts in preparation for the proposal’s rollout in the spring, including presentations at meetings of the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS), regular updates at meetings of the Academic Council, individual meetings with Provost Rory Hume and UCOP Strategic Communications staff, meetings with the UC Admissions Directors in January and July 2007, and visits to seven of the nine general campuses to discuss eligibility reform and learn of their concerns about BOARS’ proposal. Comprehensive drafts of the eligibility reform proposal were reviewed in the spring, with a final draft reviewed and unanimously approved by BOARS at the May meeting. BOARS Chair Rashid presented BOARS’ Proposal to Reform UC Freshman Eligibility Policy at the June meeting of the Academic Council, where Council agreed to distribute the proposal for systemwide Senate review in fall 2007. Over the summer, BOARS members developed a Question and Answer document, with supporting data analyses, to aid Senate reviewers in their consideration of BOARS’ proposal. BOARS expects to engage in a considerable education and advocacy campaign in 2007-08 to build support for this extensive and important change to UC’s eligibility policy.

**Task Force on Subject (‘a-g’) Requirements – The Mathematics (‘c’) and Laboratory Science (‘d’) Task Force**

Last year BOARS approved a proposal for the formation of a joint Senate and administrative task force to develop more specific descriptions of the criteria needed for high school courses to

fulfill the mathematics ('c') and laboratory science ('d') subject requirements. The Academic Council approved the proposal at its July 26, 2006 meeting. This year, BOARS made progress with the proposal by submitting names of UC faculty nominees to the task force, which the Academic Council approved at its July 27, 2007 meeting. Thereafter, UCOP staff distributed appointment letters to the task force members in August. The task force expects to hold its first meeting in fall 2007.

### **UC Transfer Preparation Paths**

In October, UCOP staff provided an update to the committee on the progress of developing "UC Transfer Preparation Paths," a proposal for implementation of SR 477 and SR 478 ("Streamlining" Articulation and SciGETC) that will also satisfy the legislative requirements of California Senate Bill 652. In April, BOARS sent a joint letter with the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) to the Academic Council, recommending divisional Senate committees' cooperation in overseeing and coordinating the Transfer Paths project. As of September, this effort is well underway with the appointment of divisional Senate contact persons, which will be coordinated by UCOP staff.

### **"ELC-Qualified" Math Requirement Proposal**

Last year, BOARS unanimously approved a proposal to modify the number of units of the mathematics ('c') requirement that must be completed for ELC-qualification for eligibility. BOARS' proposal was endorsed by the Academic Council at their February 2007 meeting.

### **Transcript Evaluation Service (TES)**

BOARS drafted a resolution in support of the Transcript Evaluation Service, a program first created by UC that plays an important role in evaluating high school transcripts to determine students' satisfaction of UC's 'a-g' admissions requirements. The funding grant that originally supported TES has since expired, and the continuation of the TES program will depend on full support from the UC Office of the President. BOARS' resolution was sent to the Academic Council in June, and subsequently endorsed by the Council and forwarded to Provost Hume in July.

### **BOARS Articulation and Evaluation (A&E) Subcommittee**

The A&E Subcommittee, chaired by BOARS Vice Chair Trish Stoddart, reviewed a significant number of proposals this year for BOARS' consideration and approval. Included was a policy recommendation on criteria for approval of online providers and courses to satisfy subject ('a-g') requirements. The proposal, which establishes criteria for granting "program status" to online providers, was approved by BOARS in October 2006 with the stipulation that it review the policy again within five years. The A&E Subcommittee also endorsed for BOARS' approval a proposed recommendation to repeal Senate Regulation 458; proposed faculty nominees to the Task Force on Subject ('a-g') Requirements; and certain course approvals. The A&E Subcommittee also worked on proposed revisions to the history/social science ('a') requirement guidelines; UC's development of "model uniform academic standards" for career technical education (CTE) courses that will satisfy completion of the college preparatory elective ('g') subject requirement for eligibility; 'a-g' course lists for independent study schools and programs; and a proposed chart to display how Advanced Placement exam scores may be used in fulfilling IGETC requirements.

### **BOARS Analytic Subcommittee**

The Analytic Subcommittee, chaired by BOARS member David Stern, set a number of priorities for the group to accomplish this year including looking at criteria for freshman admission, the significance of admission tests results for certain groups of students, as well as examining application and enrollment data for underrepresented students. The Subcommittee was instrumental in creating key simulations to aid BOARS in the development of its Eligibility Reform proposal. The Subcommittee also updated, in collaboration with UCOP Admissions Research and Evaluation staff, the set of “inclusiveness indicators” for California high school seniors, which were first developed last year.

### **BOARS Testing Subcommittee**

The Testing Subcommittee, chaired by BOARS member Jennifer Chacon, was charged this year to undertake an analysis of the alignment of the new SAT Reasoning Test with BOARS’ recommendations for the use of admissions tests at UC (“testing principles”). This effort included an extensive review of sample tests of the old and new versions of the SAT, sample essays from the new Writing portion of the SAT exam, as well as lengthy consultations with testing experts during two teleconference meetings held in the summer.

### **Other Reports and Recommendations**

The following BOARS reports and recommendations were also submitted or acted on by the Academic Council in 2006-07:

- Criteria for Approval of Online Providers and Courses to Satisfy UC Subject (‘a-g’) Requirement (submitted to Academic Council October 25, 2006)
- Examination of UC’s Freshman Eligibility Policy (update to Academic Council submitted December 8, 2006)
- Comments on CCGA Proposal to Amend Senate Regulations 694 and 695 (submitted to Academic Council February 15, 2007)
- Recommendation to Modify the Mathematics Requirement for ELC-Qualification (submitted to Academic Council February 20, 2007)
- Status Report on Eligibility Reform (submitted to Academic Council April 10, 2007)
- Joint UCEP/BOARS Letter on Divisional Coordination of UC Transfer Preparation Pathways Implementation (submitted to Academic Council April 30, 2007)
- Inclusiveness Indicators Update (submitted for posting on Academic Senate website May 28, 2007)
- UC Freshmen Eligibility Reform Proposal (submitted to Academic Council June 11, 2007; approved by Academic Council to be distributed for systemwide Senate review June 27, 2007)
- Resolution on the Transcript Evaluation Service (submitted to Academic Council June 13, 2007; endorsed by Academic Council June 27, 2007)
- Comments on the ICAS Resolution on the California High School Exit Exam (submitted to Academic Council June 13, 2007)
- Proposal to Repeal Senate Regulation 458 (submitted to Academic Council June 19, 2007; approved by Academic Council to be distributed for systemwide Senate review June 27, 2007)
- Nominations to the Mathematics (‘c’) and Laboratory Science (‘d’) Requirements Task Force (submitted to Academic Council July 13, 2007; approved by Academic Council July 27, 2007)

## **BOARS Representation**

The Chair, Vice Chair, and committee members represented BOARS in various other groups including the Academic Assembly, Academic Council, UCOPE, Admissions Processing Task Force, ASSIST Board of Directors, UC-CCC Transfer Advisory Board, Intersegmental Coordinating Committee (ICC) Transfer Subcommittee, University Diversity Study Group – Undergraduate Student Eligibility, Admissions, Enrollment and Persistence Subgroup, and Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS).

## **Acknowledgements**

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BOARS wishes to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Senate Analyst Kimberly Peterson, who worked diligently to advance the BOARS agenda for the past three years. BOARS congratulates Kimberly in her new position with the UC Office of the President. BOARS also gratefully acknowledges the extremely able support of Senate Analyst Michelle Ruskofsky, who joined the committee upon Kimberly's departure.

BOARS experienced a significant loss this year when Trish Stoddart (UCSC) was compelled to submit her resignation as BOARS Vice Chair in June, for health reasons. Trish was a tireless and dedicated BOARS member and her contributions will be sorely missed. The committee offers their best wishes for Trish's speedy recovery.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Rashid, Chair (D)

Trish Stoddart, Vice Chair (SC)

David Stern (B)

Jennifer Chacon (D)

James Given (I)

Sylvia Hurtado (LA – fall, winter)

Duncan Lindsey (LA – spring)

Peggy O'Day (M)

John Oakley ((D); Chair, Academic Senate, *Ex Officio*)

Michael T. Brown ((SB); Vice Chair, Academic Senate, *Ex Officio*)

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