

Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools

Minutes of Meeting

June 4, 2021

**I. Announcements**

*Eddie Comeaux, BOARS Chair*

- Ethnic Studies: Working groups for both IGETC and A-G continue to develop course criteria for the respective ethnic studies requirements that are being proposed.
- Preadmission Verification and Plagiarism Detection Pilot Extension
  - The memo of support was approved as noticed.
- Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS): ICAS met and discussed pending state legislation, particularly AB 928 (Berman).

**II. Campus Updates**

UCB: 1) Changes to the freshman admission policy are being drafted. 2) Data collection and assessment for College of Letters and Sciences Computer Science program continues.

UCD: 1) The campus admission director is leaving. 2) Computer Science is ending its TAG program due to low GPAs and poor diversity outcomes. 3) Greater financial support and tracking for the admission office is needed. Workload has increased faster than budget, and strategic resource allocation is necessary.

UCI: 1) SIR rates for out-of-state students are lagging projections. 2) Comprehensive Review read score changes will be proposed. Specific metrics for each of the 13 Comprehensive Review criteria is desired by some. 3) Changes to the local committee's bylaw intended to increase interaction and oversight of the admission office are being considered.

UCLA: 1) The ad hoc committee assessing athletic admissions has issued preliminary recommendations, including faculty involvement levels and student success criteria. 2) Discussion of the Access and Choice Working Group proposals was lively. 3) Transfer admit rates are trending up.

UCM: 1) Admission by Exception reviews and offers are being finalized. 2) Planning for impacted majors is a priority.

UCR: 1) SIR numbers are trending positively, and transfer numbers are, too. 2) Changes to the reader policy review process will be tested over the summer. 3) More guidance on use of standardized test scores, following the settlement, is needed.

UCSD: 1) Transfer admit rates are trending positively. 2) Application validation processes are underway. 3) LatinX enrollment is trending up. 4) Discussions on predicting summer melt have been renewed. 5) Calls for more support for transfer student success are increasing. 6) The campus admission director and AVC for Enrollment Management are both leaving. 7) Discussion of the Access and Choice Working Group proposals was productive.

UCSF: Still, the campus does not admit undergraduates.

UCSB: 1) Admissions are up 16%. 2) The campus continues to work on responses to the state auditor's requests. 3) Discussions continue regarding a proposal to place all undeclared students in Letters and Sciences. One goal is to help over-subscribed majors find new strategies, but significant changes to enrollment management practices would be needed. Additional counseling would also be needed, especially as undeclared students often do not receive registration priority; this carries both resource and time-to-degree implications. 4) Assessment of new admission software and holistic review impacts is underway. 5) So far, the campus has received twice the expected number of SIRs.

UCSC: 1) Since the campus is D-III and has few athletic special admits, it was decided not to let athletic coaches recommend admission decisions, but they can participate in the Comprehensive Review process. 2) The chancellor has asked to enroll more local students as part of a comprehensive "town/gown" relationship strategy, but a 2004 BOARS policy prohibits campuses from making geographic preferences in recruitment, unless certain demographic characteristics can be demonstrated, such as widespread low socio-economic status or a high concentration of underrepresented groups. The policy language could be revised, but any offer of a guarantee of admission would need further scrutiny and careful messaging. Some have suggested that ELC could be differently defined, or that another category of ELC could be created.

- Members will consult with their local committees and discussion will continue next month.

Graduate Student: Student voices should continue to be heard.

### **III. Consultation with Academic Senate Leadership**

*Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Chair*

*Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Vice Chair*

- Reopening and Shared Governance: A Fall Capacity Working Group, led by UC Health EVP Byington, is meeting weekly, but focusing on scientific, not operation/humanistic, items. The Senate guidelines that were previously circulated, and sent by President Drake to the chancellors, should help start conversations.
- Remote Teaching Experience Survey: The results are being collated.
- Campus Safety: A presidential proposal is out for expedited systemwide review, but it is only 4 pages.
- Feasibility Working Group: The first meeting is scheduled for later this month.
- May Regents: 1) The next chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee will be Lark Park. 2) A new innovation policy was passed, adding intellectual property, patents, start-ups, and the like to academic personnel reviews.

- Academic Integrity: The University Committee on Education Policy (UCEP) met with representative of Chegg to discuss online cheating. UC Legal may be solicited for guidance, as individual faculty should not have to address these concerns in isolation.
- Mitigating COVID Impacts on Faculty: The task force co-chaired by UCD Provost Mary Croughan and Academic Council Vice Chair Horwitz will hold its first meeting later today.
- Transfer Task Force: The first outcomes of the Pathways+ program are becoming available. More data about TAG recipients and outcomes is also sought. The Task Force is unlikely to assuage all critics of UC transfer practices, but its findings should help UCOP GUEA respond to critics and develop targeted programs and solutions for specific problems. Overall, UC needs to change the narrative around transfer. UC's process is working, and UC is meeting metrics, but UC is still under-resourced. The "transfer maze" seems to be taken as a granted by many external critics.
- Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates: UC will chair ICAS next year.
- Accellion data breach: The impacts are serious; the entire UC community should remain vigilant.

#### **IV. Consultation with the Office of the President – Graduate, Undergraduate and Equity Affairs**

*Han Mi Yoon-Wu, Executive Director, Undergraduate Admissions*

*Monica Lin, Director, A-G and Transfer Policy Analysis & Coordination*

*Tongshan Chang, Director, IRAP*

##### **1. International Baccalaureate Test Changes**

IB has launched two new mathematics examinations. A working group of UC faculty was convened to review the materials for appropriateness for granting credit by exam. The working group recommends f 8 quarter (5.3 semester) units of credit for scores of 5 or higher on the IB Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches HL exam. There is no conclusive credit recommendation for IB Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations HL.

- BOARS unanimously approved the working group recommendations as noticed.

##### **2. IGETC and Ethnic Studies**

In response to BOARS feedback, the proposal has been revised to clarify the core competencies, especially with regard to assessment of thought, issues, practices, and movements. Whether to list eligible courses independently or with a designation was raised again as a question for future consideration, given the potential for smoother implementation if UC and CSU took the same approach to incorporating the new ethnic studies requirement into IGETC. The articulation process will track which departments and IGETC subject areas have more eligible courses, and future changes could be made as UCEP is still considering whether to institute an undergraduate ethnic studies graduation requirement.

- BOARS unanimously approved the proposed IGETC ethnic studies core competencies (from the CSU) and proposed UC revisions as noticed.

##### **3. Proposal from Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE)**

*Note: Item deferred.*

## **V. Consultation with Admission Directors and Enrollment Management Leads**

### **1. SAT/ACT Litigation Update**

*With Rhonda Goldstein, UC Legal*

UC reached a settlement in recent litigation. Under the terms of the settlement, the University has agreed not to consider applicants' SAT or ACT scores in admissions or scholarship decisions for Fall 2022. The Board of Regents had already decided in May 2020 that SAT or ACT scores would not be considered for Fall 2023 admissions and beyond. And all the UC campuses have already announced plans not to consider SAT or ACT scores for Fall 2022 admissions. SAT and ACT scores may still be used for the following limited purposes if applicants choose to submit them, namely, for fulfilling the English subject-matter requirement, or for course placement or advising after students are admitted.

### **2. Targeted Recruitment**

Campus resources are stretched to the limit, precluding many meaningful efforts at such outreach, even though the necessity of doing so is clear. Some campuses report leaving positions unfilled in order to shift internal resources to targeted recruitment efforts. Some suggest enlisting students to lobby for additional resources for admission offices.

UCB has received some grant funding, but overhead costs are a concern. UCB is also consolidating admission and enrollment, in the hopes of better planning. Philanthropy is insufficient; more dedicated campus funds are necessary.

UCSC encourages more pipeline programs, including elementary and junior high school programs. Systemwide reach and planning would enhance any such efforts.

Direct student outreach is successful on several campuses, but workload and resources limit efforts.

All campuses need more support services and resources for enrolled students, both on-campus and before they reach campus.

Campus distribution of application fees needs transparent evaluation.

- BOARS will consider means of supporting campus admission offices.

### **3. BOARS Access and Choice Working Group**

Many worry about unintended consequences of allowing top students guaranteed entry to their UC of choice, such as selective enrollment into poor performing schools to boost chances for admission. Others noted that specific populations need more than a small percentage of top performers to show meaningful statistical gain. Greater understanding of local context limitations is still needed.

- BOARS will determine next steps for the working group at its next meeting.

### **4. Duolingo Pilot**

In July 2020, BOARS approved use of Duolingo on a pilot basis as an alternative to TOEFL for use during the COVID pandemic. Campuses asked BOARS to extend the pilot through 2023, even though first year data are still forthcoming; analysis will focus on first year English outcomes. Some are concerned that UC should offer Pearson the opportunity, but UC had internal data for Duolingo, while independent data on the Pearson Test of English is sparse. Additional TOEFL changes are likely forthcoming, as well.

- BOARS approved extension of the Duolingo pilot unanimously.

### **5. Admission by Exception**

Several campuses seek waivers on AbyE caps for heavily COVID-impacted international regions where no graduation exams are being given. A-G considerations complicate evaluation of domestic non-residents, too.

Since the exception in AbyE is to eligibility requirements for graduates of California high schools, international and domestic non-resident students are not technically admitted by exception (to the eligibility requirement). Campuses can simply not code international and domestic non-residents as AbyE, but still abide by non-resident enrollment caps.

- BOARS will amend its Policy on Selection of Nonresident Students to clarify that non-residents do not need to be coded as AbyE, and BOARS will notify the Academic Council of this change.

6. Compare Favorably Outcomes from Fall 2020

In addition to BOARS policy, reporting Compare Favorably outcomes is a legislative mandate.

The group is asked what other metrics could usefully illustrate that non-resident admits

Compare Favorably to California admits. The group asks whether “favorably” could be defined as more than 3.79 versus 3.78 GPAs, especially when non-residents do not have an A-G curriculum for direct comparison. That no California residents are displaced should be emphasized. Student success outcomes and retention rates are influenced by many factors, with emotional toll and financial cost being a significant concerns for non-residents. Changes in grading practices must also be considered.

BOARS will deliberate further on alternative or additional metrics. The Fall 2021 report will be the first absent standardized test scores, so decisions will need to be made quickly.

**VI. Further Discussion**

*None.*

Adjournment: 3:50 pm.

Minutes prepared by Kenneth Feer, Principal Analyst

Attest: Eddie Comeaux, BOARS Chair

Attendance:

Eddie Comeaux, BOARS Chair

Madeleine Sorapure, BOARS Vice Chair

Sameer Srivastava, UCB

Deborah Swenson, UCD

Sergio Gago Masague, UCI

Barbara Knowlton, UCLA

Abbas Ghassemi, UCM

Sheldon Tan, UCR

Rebecca Plant, UCSD

Michael Stryker, UCSF

Mike Gordon, UCSB

David Smith, UCSC

Carlos Galan, Graduate Student Representative