



BOARD OF ADMISSIONS AND RELATIONS WITH SCHOOLS
Videoconference Minutes
May 1, 2026

In attendance: David Volz (Chair), Nicholas Mathew (Vice Chair), Gustavo Manso (UCB), Leah Hibel (UCD), Andrea De Vizcaya Ruiz (UCI), Kelly Kay (UCLA), Joel Spencer (UCM), Manu Sridharan (UCR), Adrian Ioana (UCSD), Michael Stryker (UCSF), Vanessa Woods (UCSB), Matthew Shahmaram (Undergraduate Student Representative), Jose Aguilar (Graduate Student Representative), Han Mi Yoon-Wu (Associate Vice Provost & Executive Director, Undergraduate Admissions, Graduate, Undergraduate & Equity Affairs (GUEA)), Chase Fischerhall (Director, A-G & Transfer Articulation Policy, GUEA), Angelica Moore (Director, Undergraduate Admission Policy & Communications, GUEA), Liz Terry (Manager of Admissions Analytics, Undergraduate Admissions, GUEA), Tongshan Chang (Director, Institutional Research & Academic Planning (IRAP)), Matt Reed (Senior Institutional Research & Planning Analyst, IRAP), Ahmet Palazoglu (Chair, Academic Senate), Susannah Scott (Vice Chair, Academic Senate), Brenda Abrams (Policy Analyst, Academic Senate)

I. Consent Calendar

Action: Today's agenda items and their priority were approved.

Action: The April 3rd BOARS minutes were approved.

II. Consultation with Academic Senate Leadership

Ahmet Palazoglu, Chair & Susannah Scott, Vice Chair, Academic Senate

Chair Palazoglu will meet with Assemblymember Alvarez later this month to discuss the Master Plan. UCOP and the UAW are figuring out details of the new contract agreement, and negotiations with the AFT, representing Unit 18 lecturers, will begin soon. During the April 9th Academic Assembly meeting, the nomination of the incoming vice chair was approved. Academic Council's April 29th meeting included a conversation with President Milliken about the recent Report of the Yale Committee on Trust in Higher Education. The UC Adaptations to Disruptions Plus Task Force steering committee and workgroups meet next week in-person with members of the Administrative Transformation Initiative. The report from the Performance of Undergraduate Degree Programs Task Force is being finalized and will undergo some preliminary reviews before it is distributed for systemwide review. Chair Palazoglu thanked Chair Volz for testifying at the April 29th Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3 on Education Finance hearing.

III. Chair's Updates

Chair Volz announced that Senate Bill 1321 (Senators Niello and Ochoa Bogh) failed to pass out of the Committee on Education. Assembly Bill (AB) 2693 (Assembly Member Alvarez) has been amended to address the merger of California Maritime Academy with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and is no longer about authorizing the California State University (CSU) system to offer doctoral degrees. AB 2572 (Fong) is still active and it would allow the CSUs to jointly offer doctoral degrees

with independent institutions. Chair Volz is working with California Community College members of the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) on a memo and diagram related to articulation of Common Course Numbering templates. If ICAS approves these documents on May 15th, they will be transmitted to the administrations of the three higher education segments. During the April 20th discussion with Academic Council, President Milliken asked for input on what should be included in the Master Plan, and this is related to the multiple bills introduced in the legislature this session to amend, modify, or create exceptions to provisions of the Master Plan. Chair Volz asked BOARS members to provide any input about the Master Plan that they would like to be relayed to President Milliken.

IV. Draft Policy for Reviewing Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), & A-Level Exams

Several years ago, BOARS was asked by Graduate, Undergraduate, and Equity Affairs to establish a policy for reviewing AP, IB, and A-level exams. Chair Volz shared the draft policy with the chairs of the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) and the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) to solicit their input on the elements which touch on the purview of those committees. BOARS will vote on the policy in June.

Discussion: Members suggested additions to the draft policy including the idea of looking at the performance of students who took these tests in subsequent courses at UC as a way of assessing the effectiveness of the exams. The Undergraduate Admissions website has information about the exams accepted by A-G subject area and the minimum score required. The policy includes UCEP because that committee is responsible for decisions about what counts for college credit and UCOPE because it approves the use of test scores for placement into UC courses. Chair Volz will add language that sets a clear timeline for BOARS, UCEP, and UCOPE to review or re-review exams, and Associate Vice Provost Yoon-Wu suggested that the committees should complete this work in 60 days. If the committees have conflicting recommendations, the chairs should collaborate to resolve them.

V. Draft “Policies & Partnerships Roadmap” for First-Year Undergraduate Admissions

Members have received version three of the draft “Policies and Partnerships Roadmap” and Chair Volz explained the major changes that have been made based on BOARS’ input on version two. The proposed workgroups have been streamlined so the tasks will be manageable and their work will occur between October and April. The first workgroup will focus on standardized tests, and the second workgroup will focus on the overarching A-G framework. Chair Volz intends to send an initial roadmap (version four) to Senate leadership next week and any feedback will be incorporated in time for the June 5th BOARS meeting.

Discussion: Members agreed that the updated draft looks good and provided additional input. The committee discussed the composition of the workgroups and how members will be identified. The roadmap should delineate how the workgroups will make decisions and who will be allowed to vote.

VI. Consultation with the Admissions Directors & Enrollment Management Leads

Chair Volz welcomed the Admissions Directors (ADs) and Enrollment Management Leads (EMLs) to the videoconference and summarized the topics BOARS has addressed this academic year.

Discussion: The guests provided input on the “Policies & Partnerships Roadmap” roadmap and reflected on the anticipated public interest in the undertaking. It would be reasonable to have an AD and/or EML as ex officio members of the workgroups as they can offer a valuable perspective and relevant data. While there is support for UC potentially allowing the IB to submit Standard Level exams for consideration for credit, the committee should keep in mind that testing companies are making money. The ADs and EMLs reported on the preliminary enrollment numbers and trends they are currently seeing with admissions. They touched on the increase in transfer applications, concerns about the use of artificial intelligence in admissions, enrollment of international students, and the challenges of yield management.

Increasing numbers of transfer students have credit from APs and dual enrollment and are utilizing UC’s transfer pathways and transfer admission guarantees. Additionally, transfer students seem to be better prepared for their majors. A challenge related to college credits that appear on transcripts is determining what is from credit by exam, dual enrollment in an in-person versus online community college course, or a high school class. BOARS might be able to initiate a conversation about the uniformity of standards for college credits. Next year, BOARS will investigate the various ways to accumulate college course credit, potentially strengthening various policies if necessary.

When associate degrees for transfer (ADTs) were introduced, applications from community college students shifted towards the CSU campuses but this may be changing because UC has highlighted similar opportunities available for students interested in transferring. Some data has suggested that transfer students are more likely to persist at and graduate from a UC campus in comparison to a CSU. One question is whether the demographics of the transfer population are changing. Chair Volz informed the ADs and EMLs that the University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB) drafted a proposal to have a single application fee for all undergraduate campuses and to allow the fee waiver to apply to that single application fee for all the campuses. BOARS was unanimously against this proposal for several reasons, and Chair Volz and Associate Vice Provost Yoon-Wu met with UCPB to report the concerns. UCPB is not moving forward with the proposal as of now.

VII. Draft Policy on the Use of the IB's Standard Level (SL) Exams for College Course Credit

The proposed policy would allow the IB to submit SL exams to UCOP to be considered for credit by exam. Associate Vice Provost indicated that the SL exams with passing scores are not currently used to fulfill A-G requirements.

Discussion: Members provided input on the draft policy. Chair Volz will update the draft and the committee will vote to approve the policy during the June meeting.

VIII. Member Reports/Campus Updates

UCSB: The committee is thinking deeply about enrollment trends by major. UCSB is unique in that it only has three undergraduate colleges so most of the majors are in one college (with three divisions) which creates issues that must be resolved.

UCD: The campus planned to be part of the ADT pilot but the divisional Senate has decided that this should be postponed as there are more pressing issues to handle.

UCLA: The local committee is working with the Undergraduate Council to investigate entry level writing and math.

UCSC: The representative worries that the target for enrollment will not be met without using the waitlist. The campus will consider whether changes need to be made for math placement.

UCI: The local committee met with the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning to discuss concerns about math preparedness. The committee also considered the proposed revision to Senate Regulation 192 (UCOPE bylaw).

UCM: The number of transfer applicants increased but the review process was slower due to staffing issues. The committee is considering several proposals for increasing financial aid as a way to increase enrollment in certain majors. Math preparation is the subject of ongoing deliberation.

UCR: A report on preparatory math from the division's committee on preparatory education will be sent to the divisional Senate and this may lead to the formation of a task force.

IX. New Business/Executive Session

No New Business was introduced, and Executive Session was not held.

The meeting adjourned at: 2:47 PM

Minutes prepared by: Brenda Abrams, Principal Policy Analyst

Attest: David Volz, Chair