UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA               ACADEMIC SENATE
BOARD OF ADMISSIONS AND RELATIONS WITH SCHOOLS
Minutes of Teleconference Meeting
January 9, 2015

I.  Consent Calendar

 BOARS draft minutes of December 5, 2014

Action: BOARS approved the December meeting minutes.

II.  Announcements

   o Ralph Aldredge, BOARS Chair

December Assembly Meeting: On December 10, Chair Aldredge presented a report to the Assembly of the Academic Senate covering current issues in undergraduate admissions that gave an overview of major admissions policies and recent outcomes.

December ICAS Meeting: The Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS) oversees the California Open Education Resources Council (COERC), an intersegmental committee composed of three faculty members from each higher education segment that is working to increase faculty adoption of low-cost or free open educational resources, to help reduce student textbook costs. The work was mandated by CA Senate Bill 1052, which asks COERC to assemble a list of 50 lower division courses for which affordable, open source textbooks and materials could be developed. The effort is being funded jointly by the state and the Hewlett and Gates foundations.

Compare Favorably Reports: Each BOARS member has received a request to work with their campus committee and admissions office to prepare an analysis for BOARS of 2014 outcomes and the extent to which they are meeting the “compare favorably” standard for nonresident admission, by January 31. Director Trevino has copied each admission director on the request.

SCA-1: California Senators Lara and Cannella have proposed a Senate Constitutional Amendment, SCA-1, which would remove some of UC’s historical autonomy in order to give state officials more control over tuition and executive compensation. UC is concerned about the proposal, but also notes that previous tuition increases have brought similar proposals. BOARS members agreed that BOARS should encourage the Academic Senate and the University to oppose the legislation.

III.  Consultation with the Academic Senate Office

   o Mary Gilly, Academic Senate Chair
   o Dan Hare, Academic Senate Vice Chair

State and UC Budget: The Governor has released his 2015-16 state budget proposal, which maintains the provision that a 4% funding increase for UC is contingent on tuition remaining at
current levels. The UC budget, on the other hand, assumes revenue from both the 4% state funding increase and a 5% tuition increase. The Governor has requested a series of conversations with President Napolitano focused on specific ideas for delivering high quality education at a lower cost, and UCOP is developing an engagement plan for faculty who want to help with advocacy around the budget and the new Long-Term Stability Plan for Tuition and Financial Aid. A presentation planned for the January Regents on doctoral student support competitiveness has been postponed. The Senate is now considering a presentation later in the year that will address all of UC’s high-priority funding needs related to quality and competitiveness.

Admissions Appeal Pilot: Campus administrators received a request for feedback about a pilot program proposed by a UC group that is considering strategies for increasing diversity within the legal confines of Proposition 209. The program would encourage CA residents who have been denied admission to UC but admitted to select out-of-state competitor institutions to reapply for UC admission via the appeals process. Some Senate directors are concerned that the Senate was not consulted about the proposal, despite having jurisdiction over admissions policy.

IV. Consultation with UCOP
   - Stephen Handel, Associate Vice President, Undergraduate Admissions
   - Michael Treviño, Director of Undergraduate Admissions
   - Monica Lin, Associate Director Undergraduate Admissions
   - Adam Parker, Admissions Policy Coordinator

Application Data: On Monday, UCOP will officially release fall 2015 application data to the public. All data and a summary sheet will be available on the UCOP website. Campus-specific questions will be referred to campuses.

Process Reviews: Associate Director Handel and Director Treviño are attending reader training and norming sessions on each campus to gather best practices for improving the mechanics of current read processes. In addition, Associate Director Handel has asked each admissions director to take a deep internal look at their process to ensure that they maximize information and opportunities, and UCOP is convening an outside group to contribute their perspectives about UC’s processes.

Transfer Action Team: A UCOP team is assembling a paper summarizing the implementation status of the Transfer Action Team recommendations. The recommendation to streamline transfer articulation is of particular interest to BOARS. The work already done to develop the UC Transfer Curricula and Transfer Pathways, and the upcoming revisions to the Transferable Course Agreement Guidelines, highlight UC’s commitment to increasing the ease and transparency of the transfer process.

V. Annual Report on Undergraduate Admissions Requirements & Comprehensive Review

Eligibility Policy. It discusses application, admission, and yield outcomes under comprehensive review for the years 2012-2014; the ongoing implementation of the new freshman admissions policy and the Regents’ 2011 Resolution on Individualized Review and Holistic Evaluation; efforts by BOARS to enhance the transfer path and to ensure that admitted nonresidents compare favorably to California residents; and challenges associated with the future of the referral guarantee. BOARS has been asked to submit the report to the Regents by January 31.

Chair Aldredge asked members to review the draft set of “key findings” included in the executive summary; to consider possible additional recommendations and issues reflected in the data that still need to be addressed in the report; and the extent to which their campus still participates in score sharing. Members were asked to provide feedback by early next week.

VI. Statway Review

Last summer, BOARS initiated a faculty review of Statway, a year-long community-college course sequence that combines introductory college-level statistics with pre-college mathematical content, to determine whether students who complete the sequence should receive credit equivalent to a traditional introductory statistics course upon transfer to UC. The baseline version was developed by the Carnegie Foundation and is being offered at six California Community Colleges (CCCs). Statway is intended for non-STEM majors as an alternative pathway to a traditional math sequence needed for transfer. The Carnegie course differs from a version of Statway BOARS rejected in 2011 over concerns that it did not meet UC Regents policy requiring any transferable math or statistics course to include intermediate algebra “or equivalent” as a prerequisite. BOARS also clarified that policy in a 2013 Statement on Basic Math, noting that equivalency should be defined as content that adheres to the college readiness standards of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSSM) for K-12.

In the summer review, UC faculty concluded that the statistics content of the Carnegie Statway course meets the standards for transfer articulation. A second fall review confirmed that the pre-college mathematical content presented in the course meets the minimum math requirements expected of freshmen by sufficiently covering CCSSM-aligned mathematics. BOARS is now asked to approve the Statway courses offered at six CCCs for UC transferability, and to allow future courses based on the Carnegie curricular framework to be accepted. It was noted that actual credit awards for the courses will continue to be determined at the local campus level.

**ACTION**: A motion was made and seconded to approve Statway, as designed by Carnegie, and as adopted by Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC) and five other community colleges (Foothill College, American River College, De Anza College, Diablo Valley College, and San Diego City College), for UC transferability. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Campus Reports

One admission committee at a campus that is moving to holistic review feels that the current systemwide application carries insufficient information about non-cognitive factors such as extracurricular activities and special talents. The committee has been entertaining suggestions for
modifying the application to make that information easier to access and more quantifiable; however, it recognizes that the suggested method might be useful to all campuses and would require an extensive discussion to modify the UC application.

Members agreed that the conversation should continue at a future BOARS meeting and in consultation with the admissions directors. It was noted that campuses using holistic review have instituted carefully calibrated read processes that assess the extent of students’ extracurricular activities. It may be helpful to share these best practices.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm
Minutes Prepared by Michael LaBriola
Attest: Ralph Aldredge