

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY (UCEP) 2005-2006 ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

The University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) met six times in Academic Year 2005-06 and held one conference call to conduct its business with respect to its duties as outlined in [Senate Bylaw 170](#) and in the Universitywide Review Processes for Academic Programs, Academic Units, and Research Units (the “[Compendium](#)”). The major activities of the committee and the issues it addressed this year are outlined briefly, as follows:

The Role of Graduate Students in University Instruction:

One of UCEP’s major contributions in 2005-06 was to reconsider—together with the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA)—the role of graduate students who participate in instruction at UC, and the policies, practices, and quality control mechanisms governing graduate student teaching. UCEP members gathered divisional information on the role of graduate student instructors, and in March, sent a preliminary set of recommendations to the Academic Council. Council then asked UCEP to develop a joint set of recommendations with CCGA.

UCEP Chair Denise Segura and CCGA member Bruce Schumm led the effort to craft a single proposal that brought the views of both committees into concurrence. The committees made a number of recommendations—proposing that the use of graduate students as Instructors of Record be prohibited in both regular and summer terms, except in rare circumstances, and that graduate student teaching take place under one of two new standard titles—“Graduate Teaching Assistants,” who would remain those currently working under close faculty supervision to teach small sections, and “Graduate Teaching Fellows”—graduate students with certain qualifications and teaching experience approved by the Senate to have complete instructional authority under the mentorship of a faculty member. CCGA and UCEP recommended that the review and approval authority of campus Senate committees over graduate student teaching would extend to lower division teaching by Teaching Fellows, and that no campus use GTFs for more than ten percent of the classes they offer during the year, including state-supported summer instruction. Finally, the committees proposed changes to the relevant policies—Senate Regulation 750 and APM 410-20—to include approvals of lower and upper division and graduate teaching by graduate students in the Senate purview. The joint proposal was received by the Academic Council in June and released for full Academic Senate review.

Recommendation for a Task Force on Undergraduate Education:

UCEP was asked by the Academic Planning Council to consider the charge and scope of a proposed systemwide Task Force on Undergraduate Education, which would examine the status of undergraduate education at UC and make recommendations to the president and provost about enrollment and program planning decision-making over the next decade. UCEP sought input from campus undergraduate councils, educational policy committees, deans, Assistant Vice Provost Linda Guerra, Director of UCLA’s Center for Community Learning Kathy O’Byrne, Former Student Regent Jodi Anderson, and Director of International Program Development Gretchen Kalonji. UCEP prepared a memo recommending critical themes and areas of undergraduate education in need of greater analysis that could compose the charge of the Task Force. These included the role of research opportunities, senior “capstone” requirements, international education, general education, service learning and civic engagement, and innovations in technological change, as well as leadership preparation programs; organization of the freshman experience; honors programs; the place of ethics in the curricula; and the value of small classes to the quality of undergraduate education. Academic

Council endorsed UCEP's recommendation and the Academic Planning Council made plans to constitute the Task Force.

Recommendations for the Use of Summer Instruction:

UCEP was asked by Provost Hume and the Academic Planning Council to review a set of proposed academic guidelines for the use of Summer Session. After members discussed the draft guidelines with their respective committees on educational policy, UCEP prepared a memo outlining preliminary recommendations for the future study of the issue. These included recommendations for campuses and Academic Senate committees to evaluate how their current summer session practices interacted with overall educational goals; whether instructional quality and curriculum were "substantially equivalent" to that offered during regular terms; and how students view and use summer session. UCEP also recommended that UC conduct a campus-by-campus study of strategies for growing summer enrollment and faculty participation in instruction. UCEP submitted its memo to the Academic Council, which voted to approve UCEP's recommendations for communication to the Academic Planning Council.

Transfer and Articulation Issues:

UCEP met several times with staff from the department of Student Academic Services and [ASSIST](#) Director Eric Taggart to discuss transfer issues and develop a plan for the implementation of SR 477 to streamline the major preparation course articulation process and improve student transfer from California Community Colleges to UC. Student Academic Services provided UCEP with an analysis of commonalities in top UC majors that identified "similar" majors; whether those majors had common lower division major preparation requirements; and whether the requirements were prescriptive (requiring 45 or more quarter units). UCEP also reviewed a draft of *UC Transfer Preparation Paths*, a proposal for implementation of SR 477 that sought to develop clearer communication vehicles to inform Community College students and counselors about the full range of available UC lower division transfer preparatory paths and the similarities and differences in transfer requirements. *Transfer Preparation Paths* would help students more easily identify the specific courses at every CCC they could use to meet transfer requirements for UC majors and plan a curriculum accordingly.

UCEP reviewed preliminary paths for two sample majors. It was agreed that those, along with two others, would be finalized and posted for students in fall 2006 with an expansion plan for 16 other top majors. Over the summer, organizers will consult admissions directors, articulation officers, and other campus representatives, before a final draft is prepared in late summer. Transfer Preparation Paths will present individual major requirements as applicable for a specific timeframe, and will be upgraded every year. Organizers will report to UCEP in September and throughout 2006-07.

California Science and Math Initiative:

UCEP members Benson Tongue (UCB) and Keith Williams (UCD) represented UCEP on the Academic Senate's California Science and Math Initiative Workgroup (SMIG). UCEP members gathered data on the local status of the SMI and made recommendations for the transition to campus management, leadership, the role of the Senate, and possible impediments to implementation.

Civic Engagement Initiative:

In December, UCEP was joined by Kathy O'Byrne, Director of UCLA's Center for Community Learning, and Former Student Regent Jodi Anderson, who asked the committee for feedback on a proposed systemwide effort to increase UC's leadership around civic engagement, engaged

scholarship and service learning. UCEP made recommendations to the Civic Engagement Initiative organizers to improve and enhance the structure of the proposal.

International Education:

Director of International Strategy Development Gretchen Kalonji joined UCEP in February to discuss the impact of UC's existing and emerging International programs on undergraduate education. UCEP also included international education as a topic in its recommendation for an Undergraduate Education Task Force in the context of how experiential programs like EAP impact the undergraduate experience.

University of California Center in Washington DC (UCDC):

UC Washington Center ([UCDC](#)) Director and UCB Professor Bruce Cain joined UCEP in June to describe his proposal for creating certain UCDC elective courses through a systemwide approval mechanism involving UCEP. The committee discussed a possible UCDC course vetting and approval process whereby UCEP would approve a course after reviewing it only as suitable in the context of the UCDC mission but using a campus committee to vet the content of the course. UCEP will continue to discuss the proposal with Director Cain in 2006-07.

International Baccalaureate Curriculum:

Jeanne Hargrove, Coordinator for High School Articulation and the Analytical Writing Placement Exam, asked UCEP to review a set of IB Standard Level Curriculum guides to determine what, if any, university credit should be given for completion. UCEP agreed to review the curriculum and exam and decide what number of university units students should be awarded depending on what test score, but requested additional information on several topics, including final exam scoring methodology. Coordinator Hargrove was working with IB to obtain the necessary information and planned to join UCEP again in fall 2006.

Reconstitution of the A. Gary Graduate School of Management:

In April, in accordance with its role as a Compendium review committee, UCEP submitted a recommendation to Academic Council about a proposal from UC Riverside to transfer its B.S. degree in Business Administration to the renamed A. Gary Anderson School of Management, and to restructure the curriculum accordingly. UCEP recommended against the proposal until additional information was provided.

Consultation and Communication with Other Systemwide Committees:

At the request of BOARS, UCEP discussed a proposal to add Earth and Space Science as a fourth core laboratory science course option in UC's "d" and "g" admissions requirements. UCEP reaffirmed its previous recommendation to leave the requirements unchanged and endorsed BOARS' request for Council action. In addition, at the invitation of CCGA, UCEP discussed a UCSD proposal to establish a five-year combined program of undergraduate and professional study leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Master of International Affairs.

Responses to Proposed Legislation:

UCEP submitted comments to the Senate's Legislative Analyst on several proposed bills with potential impacts for the University and educational policy. These included Assembly Bill 2168, which requested UC to develop a core general education curriculum for transfer; Senate Bill 1769 requesting UC to enter into formal systemwide course articulation agreements for transfer; Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 34, regarding affordable student fees; SB-1412, which would have asked

UC to develop a Student Bill of Rights; a proposal for new programs under Title VIII of the U.S. Senate's Higher Education Act reauthorization bill (S1614); and a draft report from the U.S. Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education on how to improve the higher education system in the United States

Other News and Business:

UCEP viewed its charge widely and regarded the majority of Senate issues to have some educational policy implications. In response to requests for formal comment from the Academic Council, UCEP issued views on the following:

- **The University Committee on Academic Freedom's Proposed Student Freedom of Scholarly Inquiry Principles**
- **Systemwide Review of the Universitywide Committee on Library's Proposed Amendment to Senate Bylaw 185**
- **The University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity's Proposed University Statement on Diversity**

UCEP also discussed issues related to the business of the Academic Council and Academic Assembly and the work of campus Committees on Educational Policy. UCEP's chair represented the committee at meetings of the Council, Assembly, and the Academic Planning Council. She also regularly attended meetings of the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS), where she presented UCEP's views on various issues, including streamlining transfer.

Acknowledgements: UCEP benefited from regular consultation and reports from two UCOP consultants—Julius Zelmanowitz, Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives, and Julie Gordon, Director of Intercampus Academic Program Coordination. UCEP occasionally consulted the Academic Senate chair and vice-chair, who updated the committee on issues facing the Academic Council and Senate, and the Senate executive director, who spoke to UCEP about committee and administrative matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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