

## Online Undergraduate Degree Task Force 2019-2020

### Charge

The Online Undergraduate Degree Task Force will look at the implications of creating full-time online undergraduate degree programs at the University of California. The Task Force will consider the following issues, with an understanding that the scope of topics could expand:

- What are the key differences that constitute an on-line degree category? Is it the same degree program just delivered in a different modality? Or are there a deeper set of differences, particularly with respect to access to resources and exposure to research and intellectual/cultural diversity.
- How can the quality of instruction, learning, and discussion be maintained in a full time online degree?
- How can the UC guard against an online degree being viewed as “lesser-than” a traditional degree?
- What are the costs and benefits associated with generating and maintaining high quality online degree courses, in terms of infrastructure and personnel including TA support?
- Will the courses serve the targeted student populations (to include, but not limited to geographically/physically isolated or otherwise geographically/physically bound students)?
- How will the UC provide the long-term support for these programs as technology and best-practices in teaching change over time?
- How will admissions and financial aid processes be adapted?
- What are the rights of students who pursue online degrees in terms of access to campus resources? If different than students taking courses on campus, what are the implications of this for student fees?

As part of its deliberations, the Task Force may invite UCOP administrators to some meetings to offer information and insights on the development of such degrees. The Task Force will offer preliminary recommendations to the Chair of Academic Council by end March 2020. At that stage, the Chair of the Task Force and Council will decide on how best to involve administrative personnel on campuses and at UCOP to meet with the Task Force and seek their comments on the recommendations. It is expected the Task Force would submit a final set of recommendations to Academic Council by June 2020.