UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA   **ACADEMIC SENATE**
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
Videoconference Minutes
Monday, May 3, 2021

Attending: Daniel Potter, Chair (UCD), Mary Lynch, Vice Chair (UCSF), Dana Carney (UCB), Katheryn Russ (UCD), Colleen Bronner (UCD Alternate), Tony Smith (UCI), Megan McEvoy (UCLA), Matthew Hibbing (UCM), Juliann Allison (UCR), Jose Gurrola (UCSF), Mary Brenner (UCSB), Tracy Larrabee (UCSC), Zoe Hayes {Undergraduate Student Representative), Angus MacDonald (Todd Greenspan (Director, Academic Planning), Ethan Savage (Analyst, Academic Planning), Mary Gauvain (Chair, Academic Senate), Robert Horwitz (Vice Chair, Academic Senate), Brenda Abrams (Principal Policy Analyst, Academic Senate)

I.   Consultation with the Academic Senate Office
- *Mary Gauvain, Chair, Academic Senate*
- *Robert Horwitz, Vice Chair, Academic Senate*

Senate leadership is working with divisional Senate chairs about reopening campuses in the fall, and a recently developed set of systemwide guidelines will be transmitted to President Drake and the campuses. A second survey of faculty about their experiences with remote instruction shall be disseminated through division chairs, and members are encouraged to complete the survey. The goal is to obtain data that will be useful for discussing issues related to remote and online instruction with Regents and administrators. A recent meeting of the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) included visits with assembly members, and improving the transfer process continues to be a key focus for ICAS. Chair Gauvain explained that faculty in the California Community College and California State University systems have frequent contact with state legislators unlike UC faculty members, in part because of UC's autonomy from the California Legislature.

During last week's Academic Council meeting, the issue of UC affiliations with Catholic hospitals that have ethical and religious directives were discussed with President Drake. The Senate is urging UC Health to not affiliate with such hospitals because of the violation of non-discrimination policies and recommends affiliations only be pursued if they meet a high bar. Council also spoke to the President about the campus policing issue, including the three-year process of revising "The Gold Book" policy manual. The Senate has a significant number of serious objections and critiques of The Gold Book which have been shared with the President. President Drake is of the opinion that serious work should be done to reform UC police, but is not in favor of abolition since that would mean that the local city police departments would have jurisdiction over UC campuses.

Senate leadership continues to assess the viability of establishing standing divisional Senate committees on the climate crisis or reorienting existing campus sustainability committees. The divisional committees would inform Academic Council about local interests and concerns which would then be funneled to the President's Global Climate Leadership Council.

Discussion: Members echoed the need for more UC faculty involvement with legislators as well as with intersegmental groups dealing with the many complex issues related to transfer. Vice Chair Horwitz clarified that the affiliation issue is unrelated to the health insurance coverage available to UC employees. The Senate has suggested that UC Health should affiliate with county hospitals which do not discriminate and could lead to increased access to medical care underserved areas, but UC Health argued that these agreements would be too expensive. Students and faculty may not have

the energy to be fully engaged in learning and teaching in the fall, so the need for flexibility in grading continues to be important.

II.   Consultation with <u>Chegg</u> Representatives ~ *Executive Session*
- *Candace Sue, Head of Academic Relations, Chegg*
- *Erik Manuevo, Vice President, Content/Operations, Chegg*
- *Marc Boxser, Vice President, Communications/Policy, Chegg*
- *Kimberly Quach, Manager, Content Operations, Chegg*
- *Kavita Aggarwal, Director, Patents/Legal, Chegg*
- *Angus MacDonald, Principal Counsel, UC Legal, UCOP*
- *Chad Pimentel, Senior Counsel, UC Legal, UCOP*

No minutes were taken during Executive Session.

III.   Annual Reminders about Course Materials & Copyright Language
- *Angus MacDonald, Principal Counsel, UC Legal, UCOP*
- *Chad Pimentel, Senior Counsel, UC Legal, UCOP*

Chair Potter asked the committee to consider if annual reminders should be sent to faculty about the intellectual property issues related to their course materials.

Discussion: Members expressed dissatisfaction with the discussion with Chegg and pointed out that it and other social learning websites should be doing more to prevent cheating. Students will find ways to cheat but the websites could try to minimize the extent to which they are incentivized to cheat. Preventative measures are typically more effective with regard to dishonesty. Chair Potter explained that these websites use filters that identify the copyright language on course materials and stops them from being posted. The annual reminder will help make faculty aware that students infringe on faculty's intellectual property rights by posting course materials online and inform them about the steps they can take to address it.

IV.   Consent Calendar

Action: UCEP's April 5th videoconference minutes were approved.

V.   Consultation with Institutional Research & Academic Planning
- *Todd Greenspan, Director, Academic Planning, IRAP*
- *Ethan Savage, Analyst, Academic Planning, IRAP*

Academic Planning is monitoring campus plans for fall reopening. The undergraduate deans and Academic Planning Council have each been thinking about what has been learned from the pandemic as well as the future of undergraduate education and the research university.

VI.   Flexibility in Grading for Fall 2021

UCEP has issued several memos since the pandemic began encouraging faculty to take flexible approaches to grading when possible, and the committee should determine if a similar memo should be issued for fall 2021.

Discussion: UCSC has decided against giving students the Pass/No Pass grading option. Reportedly, some faculty have indicated that students should be prepared for grading to return to normal in the fall. The pandemic crisis is still affecting the most vulnerable students at UC and it could be helpful to encourage faculty to recognize the ongoing impact on student learning. Chair Potter proposed that UCEP should make a general statement encouraging flexibility and leniency in grading.

Action: Chair Potter will draft a memo for the committee's review.

VII.   Principles for Online Undergraduate Degree Programs

Chair Potter sent several questions to the Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction seeking clarification about UCEP's role in approving proposals for online undergraduate degree programs. One question is whether the committee has the authority to say that UCEP wants to review all proposals for online degree programs for the next five years, for examples, rather than only approving the first proposal for this type of degree program. Chair Potter also sent the committee a list of questions to consider including what are the essential and non-negotiable components of all UC undergraduate degree programs regardless of mode of delivery and whether the review and approval processes should apply only to programs that are 100% online or after a certain threshold.

Discussion: One suggestion is to propose that only Senate faculty teach in online undergraduate degree programs, but a member noted that some successful UC courses are taught by individuals from outside of academia who are well-qualified and this is often of great value to students. The point was made that the rules for online degree programs should be consistent with those for in-person programs. UCEP should give some thought to the role of assessment. A member suggested that the committee should hold off on creating principles until online undergraduate degree programs are developed instead of trying to anticipate or imagine what they might look like. UCI's Business School project for transfer students is tiny at present, and there is no emphasis on creating an online degree at the campus. It may be more realistic for individual disciplines or colleges than UCEP to develop a set of systemwide principles.

The UCSC task force on the student experience in online classes established the principle that online degrees should not be offered if the program cannot provide a community for the online degree students that gives them the same benefits an in-person community provides, such as behavioral health services or career guidance. A group of UCSC Arts faculty are planning a two-year online Creative Technologies degree for transfer students or for students who need to complete their degree, and this mode is suitable since the content is all online. Having a group of faculty interested in offering an online degree program who have research that supports this mode of delivery is preferable to administrators telling faculty that UC has to compete in the online degree marketplace. It was noted that housing in Santa Cruz is expensive, thus having a way to finish a degree online with marketable skills in a popular discipline looks like a win-win.

A member suggested three reasons why UCEP may want to review proposals for online undergraduate degree programs for the next several years. One is to monitor cross campus competition and the allocation of resources across the campuses. The other two factors are the potential newness of the curricula and the difficulty of assessment.

VIII.   New Business

UCD's Undergraduate Council (UGC) is exploring how equity should apply to the evaluation of undergraduate programs, with some members feeling there is a need for more formal language and

guidance from the Senate on classroom equity, especially in light of detailed language coming from administrative bodies. Questions include whether it would be appropriate for the UGC to consult with the division's Committee on Affirmative Action, Diversity and Equity (AADE) or if there are any recommendations from the systemwide UCAADE. This relates to a program's freedom to create its own curriculum, but also to its responsibility to students and closing the achievement gap.

Discussion: UCI created a new council on diversity, equity, and inclusion which is intertwined with the divisional Committee on Educational Policy, Graduate Council, and the Committee on Faculty Welfare. It is not yet clear how this will unfold but the focus will be on things like the allocation of teaching assistants and hiring processes. The Provost and CCGA added some equity guidelines for review of new graduate programs: https://www.ucop.edu/institutional-research-academic-planning/content-analysis/academic-planning/new-graduate-professional-degree-programs-contributions-to-diversity_evcs-provosts-8.16.2019.pdf

Videoconference adjourned at: 12:45 PM
Minutes prepared by: Brenda Abrams
Attest: Dan Potter