



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
Minutes of Videoconference
Monday, April 20, 2026

In attendance: Catherine Sugar, Chair (UCLA), Jason Duque, Vice Chair (UCSB), Darlene Francis (UCB), Gerardo Con Diaz (UCD), Maia Young (UCI), Luke Yarbrough (UCLA alternate), Susan Varnot (UCM), Gene Brewer (UCR), Giuliana Perrone (UCSB), Onuttom Narayan (UCSC alternate), Todd Greenspan (Executive Advisor, Academic Planning & Policy Development, Institutional Research & Academic Planning (IRAP)), Carmen Corona (Director, Academic Planning & Policy, IRAP), Ethan Savage (Academic Planning & Policy Analyst, IRAP), Brenda Abrams (Principal Policy Analyst)

I. Consent Calendar

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

Action: UCEP's memo on the proposed establishment of a systemwide Committee on Climate Change and Sustainability was approved.

II. Chair's Announcements and Updates

Chair Sugar reported that the Academic Assembly meeting on April 9th included a discussion about the UAW contract resolution. The deadline for the task force on implementation of changes to APMs 015 and 016 to complete its work has been extended through July and its report will be sent out for systemwide review in the fall. Assembly approved the appointment of the next systemwide Senate vice chair. Provost Newman provided updates on international research collaboration, a travel grant program for junior faculty whose research and teaching has been interrupted by ongoing disruptions, the UCAD Plus Task Force, and the Global Language Network. President Milliken described his recent meetings with the legislature in Sacramento, the current budget situation for UC, and investigations regarding admissions into medical schools. The Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates met on April 13th and continued talking about the Common Course Numbering project. Chair Sugar clarified that UC faculty should review course templates if asked and noted that the templates ought to contain sufficient information to determine whether basic transfer eligibility and general education standards are met.

III. Consultation with Institutional Research & Academic Planning (IRAP)

Todd Greenspan, Executive Advisor, Academic Planning & Policy Development; Carmen Corona, Director, Academic Planning & Policy, & Ethan Savage, Academic Planning & Policy Analyst

Analyst Savage announced that UC had no concerns about the eighth cycle of baccalaureate degree proposals from the California Community Colleges. Director Corona is preparing a Regents item called "Advancing Lifelong Learning, - Workforce and Alumni Engagement" which focuses on how UC can better support students and alumni in a rapidly changing workforce shaped by artificial intelligence (AI) and evolving skill demands. Although there is strong student engagement in

internships, research, and career services, along with growing participation by prior students in programs like UC Alumni Career Network Extension, UC's post-graduation support is inconsistent across the system and the demand for ongoing career services is high. President Milliken envisions positioning UC as a lifelong partner that supports alumni across their entire careers. Executive Advisor Greenspan reported that there are mixed signals from the state about UC's budget allocation for next year and the situation will be clearer when the May revise is issued next month. The campuses have submitted their multi-year plans for enrollment growth through 2029-2030. Limited growth of California resident undergraduates is anticipated in 2027-2028 and will be driven by UCR and UCSC while enrollment at the other campuses will remain flat.

IV. Ideas for New UCEP White Papers
Jason Duque, Vice Chair

The committee continued discussing ideas for a new UCEP white paper focused on learning outcomes and quality across modalities. Vice Chair Duque drafted a prospectus which frames the need for a shared conceptual framework. This goes beyond content delivery mechanisms to systematically lay out a social relationship whose quality depends on various forms of engagement that may differ by modality. Members should consider the committee's goals and possible end product(s). This effort will not be completed this academic year but this and earlier discussions are helping to set a direction. Vice Chair Duque invited members to provide feedback on the content in terms of both the thesis and UCEP's argument and on the audience.

Discussion: A member remarked that the prospectus captures faculty perspectives about different modalities that have been challenging to articulate and there is consensus that the white paper will be valuable. The paper can address the idea of what education should look like at an R1 university and can help others see the value of this education anew. Disparate groups are debating educational policy issues and defining the problems in their own ways, so the white paper can serve as a definitive Senate position that goes beyond the initial broad quality statement. Members thanked Vice Chair Duque for his work and offered a number of suggestions. In particular it was noted that the problems the committee is attempting to address should be clearly articulated.

V. Proposal to Rename UC San Diego's School of Computing, Information and Data Sciences

Chair Sugar explained the UCSD proposal to rename the School of Computing, Information and Data Sciences. The proposal does not include any programmatic changes and the \$50M donation suggests revenue is not a concern.

Action: A motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to approve the proposal.

VI. Vote on Policy for Reviewing External Assessments for Credit by Exam

The Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) has prepared a policy to codify how external assessments are reviewed for credit by exam. UCEP, BOARS, and the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) each review exams for different purposes and recommend cut scores. Chair Sugar invited members to suggest additional questions and metrics that UC faculty reviewers might ask when assessing exams to ensure there is consistency.

Discussion: One suggestion was to delineate a schedule for reviewing and re-reviewing external exams, and in particular to allow for immediate re-review if there is a change to an exam. Systemwide Senate Regulation 621 stipulates that BOARS has final authority over credit be exam issues, so BOARS will transmit the recommendations from the other two committees. The draft policy states that divisions and departments will retain the right to set a higher standard than the minimum systemwide standard or to not accept an exam for certain purposes. In limiting the number of external exams to review, BOARS has considered whether they represent rigorous systems of education. It has also has reviewed data on how scores on Advanced Placement exams relate to performance at UC and how the existing AP, IB and GCE exams compare to one-another. The chair of UCOPE has raised questions about how the College Board may be using AI to write questions and develop tests or to score exams.

VII. Member Reports/Campus Updates

UCD: The Student Disability Center is not approving accommodations unless it is administering the exam. UCSC, UCM, and USCB are also grappling with the issue of accommodations. It was noted that the Americans with Disabilities Act mandates that the institution provide accommodations rather than individual faculty members.

VIII. Executive Session

Executive Session was not held.

The meeting adjourned at: 1:00 PM

Minutes prepared by: Brenda Abrams, Principal Policy Analyst

Attest: Catherine Sugar, Chair