



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY  
Minutes of Videoconference  
Monday, April 6, 2026

In attendance: Catherine Sugar, Chair (UCLA), Jason Duque, Vice Chair (UCSB), Darlene Francis (UCB), Gerardo Con Diaz (UCD), Maia Young (UCI), Susan Varnot (UCM), Gene Brewer (UCR), Lily Hoang (UCSD), Giuliana Perrone (UCSB), Carmen Corona (Director, Academic Planning & Policy, Institutional Research & Academic Planning (IRAP)), Ethan Savage (Academic Planning & Policy Analyst, IRAP), Ahmet Palazoglu (Chair, Academic Senate), Susannah Scott (Vice Chair, Academic Senate), Brenda Abrams (Principal Policy Analyst)

I. Consent Calendar

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

Action: UCEP's March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> videoconference minutes were approved.

II. Consultation with Academic Senate Leadership

*Ahmet Palazoglu, Chair & Susannah Scott, Vice Chair, Academic Senate*

UC has reached an agreement with the UAW that has been ratified by the union members. Chair Palazoglu's remarks to the Regents underscored the centrality of graduate students to UC's research enterprise and the corresponding threat to both that mission and graduate education that the higher costs from the agreement will impose. Four new Regents were appointed to the Board during this meeting and Chair Reilly and Vice Chair Sarris were reappointed to their positions. The UC Adaptation to Disruptions Plus Task Force workgroups are finalizing their recommendations and strategies to enable a resilient university going forward.

III. Chair's Announcements and Updates

Recent articles in UCLA's Daily Bruin and UCSB's Daily Nexus about the Global Language Network are very critical and take the slant that faculty in the departments and programs involved have not been adequately consulted or had their concerns taken into consideration, contradicting statements made to UCEP. Academic Council briefly discussed fully asynchronous online graduate programs and there was general hesitation about approving these degrees without clear systemwide guidance on standards and review practices. The issues and corresponding decisions about fully asynchronous online programs for undergraduate students versus graduate students may differ. The executive director of UC Online met with Council for the first time to provide an overview of the program's activities, and online learning was framed as being core to UC's academic mission. UC Online might be able to provide faculty with some advice about making teaching materials accessible.

IV. Consultation with UC Online

*Rolin Moe, Executive Director, UC Online*

Executive Director Moe indicated that UC Online is moving away from providing infrastructure support and toward technological interoperability that enables connections across the system. UC Online is engaging with leadership around the system including facilitating the development of assessment centers for students taking online courses as well as the Global Language Network (GLN). Beginning in 2012, the state allocated \$10M a year to the UC system to address online education and as of 2025-2026 the state provides \$8M for UC Online. UCOP distributes almost \$3M of the funding from the state to the campuses to help support the instructional enablement of courses in the cross-campus enrollment system. The funding is utilized for the data exchange system that allows students to begin the registration process on the UC Online platform while also aligning and updating the different campus student information systems. Campuses also use the block award for development of courses.

Approximately \$5M of the state funds goes towards salaries and systemwide software licenses for Canvas, Jenzabar, Amazon, and Salesforce and other items. Executive Director Moe described the work of the UC Online team on operations, business finance, and marketing. Since the campuses have invested in their own instructional designers over time, the two UC Online instructional designers focus on systemwide initiatives like the GLN and support UC Washington Center's use of Canvas. The executive director outlined how a faculty member interested in having a course listed for cross-campus enrollment engages with a campus liaison to UC Online. This process includes confirming that the course has the necessary campus approvals. UC Online is figuring out how to provide students with information about the credit awarded for courses taken during summer session.

Discussion: Chair Sugar recommended that UC Online's annual reports include more details about the organizational chart and the roles of different personnel which would help readers better understand the various activities highlighted in the report. An additional recommendation is that UC Online's catalog should list only those courses currently being offered and any courses that have not been offered in several years should be removed. Of the 700 courses in the catalog, Executive Director Moe estimates that about 40% (200-225) are regularly offered and 30% have never been offered for various reasons. Chair Sugar expressed concern about the funding provided for courses that were ultimately not open for cross-campus enrollment. The executive director would like to maintain a historical record of all courses that have been offered in order to track the investment, but it would be feasible to have a searchable database of courses that will be available during a certain period of time. UCEP could help UC Online determine how to remove courses no longer offered from its catalog. Cleaning up the course catalog would allow UCEP to more easily see which courses are driving UC Online's growth and how students utilize online courses.

#### V. Debrief: Consultation with UC Online

Chair Sugar noted that UCEP continues to have questions and concerns related to the data UC Online is able to provide. Today's discussion will inform the conversations the chair is having with Senate leadership regarding the program. In addition to student evaluations about how well UC Online courses worked for them, participating instructors should be asked to share their perspectives. The Senate should identify how faculty can be more closely involved with UC Online especially because of the increasing pressure to move more courses online coming from administrators.

## VI. Update on ICAS Issues

Chair Sugar described the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) and the California Community College (CCC)-led Common Course Numbering (CCN) project. Assemblymember Berman authored Assembly Bill 1111 which mandates that comparable CCC courses should be assigned a shared number with the goal of facilitating transfer to the California State University (CSU) and UC systems. In the past, agreements about credit were based on course outlines of record but the CCCs are implementing course templates which contain less information. ICAS has discussed what will be required to make the templates acceptable to CSU and UC faculty. The segments are under legislative pressure to speed up the process and Assemblymember Berman has proposed a new bill that would require administrative oversight of the templates so that everything with a common number articulates identically at all levels, at all segments by July 2027. The meetings during the March 12<sup>th</sup> Legislative Day included discussions about revisiting the Master Plan and about credit for prior learning.

Discussion: Members shared their experiences with reviewing CCC courses for articulation and noted that for some majors it is critical to account for the number of credits students must complete after transferring to UC.

## VII. Member Reports/Campus Updates

UCR: The local Committee on Educational Policy is looking into situations where an undergraduate student has a grade delay stemming from an accusation of misconduct that is being investigated. The student then wants to enroll in the next class which has as a prerequisite a passing grade the class for which they have the delay. The representative was interested in how this situation is handled at other campuses. At UCD, students with a grade delay petition to enroll in the subsequent course.

## 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