

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
Annual Report 2018-19**

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

Charge of the Committee

According to Academic Senate Bylaw 182, the University Committee on International Education (UCIE) should fulfil the following roles in systemwide governance:

1. Consider and report, in consultation with other Academic Senate committees, on matters of international education and engagement referred to the Committee by the President of the University, the Academic Council, the Assembly, a Divisional or any Senate Committee.
 - a. Report to the Academic Council and other agencies of the Senate and confer with and advise the President and agencies of the University Administration on matters concerning international engagement.
 - b. Initiate policy recommendations regarding international engagement programs and the status and welfare of international students and scholars at UC.
 - c. Evaluate and advise on UC's international service learning or experiential learning programs, except programs whose authorization and supervision is performed independently by the campuses.
2. Provide Continuing review of the Education Abroad Program and its policies.
 - a. Consult with the University Office of Education Abroad Program on future program development, including modification of the programs of existing Study Centers, establishment of new Study Centers, and disestablishment of UCEAP Programs.
 - b. Represent the Senate in the selection of Study Center Directors.
 - c. Maintain liaison with the Council of Campus Directors.
 - d. Advise the University Office of Education Abroad Program Director on all matters of international education.
 - e. Have the responsibility for the final academic review of new Study Centers and Programs after the first three years, and for regular reviews of all centers and programs every ten years or as conditions may require.
 - f. Authorize and supervise all courses and curricula in the Education Abroad Program.

New UCEAP Programs Reviewed in 2019-20

Math in Rome – *Approved*

Summer Internship in Prague – *Approved*

Summer Research at Vilnius University – *Rejected; asked for more information*

Field Studies in Volcanology – *Approved*

Social Entrepreneurship in Latin America – *Rejected; sent back for more clarity on the stability of the local region and safety for students*

Program Review Reports/Reviews

Follow-Up Report for the 2017-18 Dominican Republic Three Year Review

One-Year Follow-Up Report for 2017-18 Brazil and Chile 10-Year Review

2018-19 Barbados 10-Year Review – *Approved*

2018-19 Singapore 10-Year Review – *Approved*

2018-19 Spain Three-Year Review – *Approved*

2019-20 Mexico Three-Year Review – *Approved*

2019-20 Israel Three-Year Review – *Approved*

2019-20 Taiwan 10-Year Review – *Approved*

2019-20 Europe Multi-Site Review – *Approved*

2019-20 India Three-Year Review – *Approved*

2019-20 Hong Kong Three-Year Review – *Approved*

Program Discontinuances/Closures

National Taiwan Normal University
Hitotsuabashi University
A*Star in Singapore
University of the Arts, London
Thai Studies, Thammasat University
Engineering for Sustainability, Munich University of Applied Sciences
Russian Area Studies Summer, CIEE St. Petersburg
When in Rome, UC Study Center
Contemporary Argentina, National University of Tres de Febrero
Spanish in Buenos Aires, Torcuato Di Tella University of Cádiz
MBA Studies, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Summer + Fall International Christian University, Japan
Graduate Studies, International Relations, University of Tokyo
Summer in Singapore, National University of Singapore
Global Leadership Fellows Program (GLFP), Waseda University, Japan
Information and Communication Technologies Program, Pompeu Fabra University
Exploring Andalucía, University of Cordoba
European Transformations, UC Center Madrid and UC Center Rome
University of Granada Immersion and Iberian Studies Al Andalus, Granada
Spanish in Cadiz
Global Summer Internship, Hong Kong
Explore Senegal
Grand Budapest

Program Reestablishments

University of Canterbury

New Program Offerings

Summer Internship Program at Thammasat University

Topics of Note During the 2019-20 Year

As of fall 2019 (before COVID-19 hit), the UCEAP Director stated that UCEAP hoped that CSU students would be able to enroll into some of the UC construct programs. This will help keep the price point down while providing access for CSU students. In terms of enrollment projections, even with a small dip in fall enrollment, UCEAP is going to exceed 6000 students going abroad. The trend toward shorter programs (summer) is increasing; year-long trips are not as strong. Semester and quarter programs are still strong, but about one-third of UCEAP students are summer students.

UCEAP rolled out a new student information system last year which was much anticipated and very important. The system will be fully rolled out in its initial form by the end of this year. UCEAP has also debuted a new, mobile-friendly website; the old website was unwieldy and overwhelming with lots of redundancies. The program has completed a new Viewbook which features testimonials from students, as well as photos taken by them from their time abroad. (She shared the Viewbook with the committee.) Both the Viewbook and the website stress that students can afford to study abroad.

The Director remarked that the trend is toward fewer faculty directors, mostly due to changing faculty demographics not allowing for the two-year commitment. Instead, the program looked to provide shorter term faculty-in-residence for two-week periods. This would give faculty an opportunity to participate in education abroad, and would give the partner institutions an enhanced experience with UC. In addition, it is much more economically viable

Proposed Changes to the New Program Process

UCEAP Director of Academic Development Abraham told the committee that new program proposals go through a two-step review process, which adds to the already long time UCEAP proposals take to prepare.

She suggested that one thing that might help accelerate the process is approving proposals in a single meeting. The proposals could then go to a second meeting if there are questions/problems. Another option might be to send proposals under separate cover before the meeting date.

UCIE members discussed UCEAP's request and concluded the following: The committee would need UCEAP to send the initial program information via email two months before the UCIE meeting at which they expect the program review to be initiated. Then, at this initial UCIE meeting, the committee will discuss the program and decide if it needs further review and a second meeting. If more discussion is not needed, the committee will vote at the initial meeting.

COVID Disruption

UCEAP suspended all of its summer programming as of the March meeting. That represented about 20 percent of its programming and a \$7.5M hit to program revenue.

Only US citizens and permanent residents were allowed back into the country. UCEAP tracked international students who were studying abroad; their visas might have become invalid if they were not registered as students. Not that many American students stayed abroad; most returned.

The program suspensions began cascading in February. There were study abroad personnel on some of the campuses and some of the senior international officers who were concerned that everyone was not pulled home. Most of the pushback came from quarter campuses. But a great many students were actually semester students. They were facing the loss of academic credit, and possibly the loss of financial aid. There was also conflicting advice from UCOP regarding the definition of essential and non-essential travel, as UCOP statements about travel did not specifically address study abroad. UCEAP also needed guidance from its partners as to whether they were moving to remote instruction. UCEAP and the registrars at the campuses tried to maximize students' academic benefit and minimize their financial load. The Director said that her staff in Santa Barbara and abroad worked very hard to assuage the fears of parents, who had - at times - treated staff very harshly during their anxious phone calls that began immediately after the US travel restrictions were announced. UCEAP had 978 students who were lined up for summer programming in physics who were also making anxious phone calls because their programs were suspended.

Students ran into issues with housing deposits they have made. ACCENT international agreed to split the cost of non-refundable deposits; in some instances students had other non-recoverable costs. If they travelled within seven days of the suspension, they would be covered on ticket funds up to \$200 above the original cost. The Department of Education issued new guidelines and allowed reciprocity students to take online courses. There were students who were unable to get home from China who were allowed to take courses through ILTI. She said that UCEAP's processes have always been good as they have a lot of emergency response experience, however they have been really put to the test in the current situation. The program has waived all withdrawal fees.

In fall 2020, a very few number of programs will run and those will be under very special circumstances. UCEAP planned to notify the campuses about programs it is sure are not happening. Students who are already in-country somewhere asked if they can stay there. The program allowed students to stay at Fudan. There were also about a half dozen students who stayed in New Zealand. Students who are in Taiwan possibly were allowed to stay. Locations were evaluated on a case-by-case basis. ACCENT is running their programs as hybrid starting online and then to less than 90 days in-country. All of the suspension decisions are predicated on knowing that students can still register on their home campuses.

Finances – UCEAP modeled a \$0 summer and \$0 fall and potentially a very light spring. The suspension of programs in summer and fall represented about 70 percent of UCEAP income. Although UCEAP is self-funded, it followed whatever guidelines UCSB is offering in terms of furloughs, hiring freezes, etc. The program has frozen hiring except for replacing program directors who retired. UCEAP decided to use the summer to review its programs.

Supporting International Students on Campuses

Campuses reported some difficulty with synchronous and asynchronous teaching, particularly with larger classes. Most campuses reported working in “triage mode” and coping to the best of their abilities. Campuses tried to accommodate students in need through loaner laptops and loaner hotspots. Food and housing insecurity continue to be issues for some students. No issues of xenophobia have been reported with the exception of a “challenge” that was not campus-based but reported by the committee member. A number of students who were in the UCSC wildcat strike were international students and have been fired or not renewed.

Members remarked that campuses have a lot of international students who come from Asian countries which will likely be largely COVID-free in fall 2020. Family concerns, travel restrictions, as well as ability to obtain visas in time for fall 2020 may impact students from Asian countries being able to travel to the US. There was a high degree of uncertainty. Campuses tried to make everything available asynchronously, and international students were reassured as best as possible that there would be remote access to classes. That said, office hours could not be offered asynchronously. Some faculty offered international student office hours. Another issue was how to administer exams remotely.

Students were feeling disconnected. They also felt that their classes were inconsistent and that created a lot of anxiety. They requested more meeting rooms for discussion and for instruction.

Overall, faculty expressed overwhelming concern and ambiguity about how things would resolve in the fall. There was a feeling that there was little to be done because so much was yet to be determined. The Chair suggested a summer meeting, which members agreed to hold. It was hoped that more of the uncertainty would be addressed by that point and the committee could better determine what it can do to help students. There was considerable conversation about different plans the campuses are envisioning for reopening and how they were all very much in flux because of the uncertainty as to how the pandemic will play out in the months ahead and what will be feasible. Students were not happy about spending the same amount of money and not getting the same experience. There will be a financial impact on the University if students take quarters or semesters off. Members discussed possible strategies that had been put forward for reopening the campuses in the fall. It was agreed that hybrid instruction places a higher burden on faculty.

Initiative to Recognize International Activities and Engagement in Merit, Tenure, and Promotion

UC Davis Associate Vice Provost of Academic Programs Michael Lazzara and UC Davis Vice Provost and Chancellor of Global Affairs Joanna Regulska brought forward a proposal to recognize international activities in merit, tenure and promotion. The members took the proposal back to their campuses for review and discussion. Most of the campuses were favorable to the proposal. The Davis Vice Provost and Associate Vice Provost said they were hoping UCIE would take it forward with the Senate Chair if they thought it had merit. The Senate Chair said that fall might be a better time to bring this forward because the campus CAPs are busy at this time with merit and promotions in the COVID-19 environment.

International Student Visa Issue

President Trump issued an executive order about Chinese students with ties to the Chinese military academic complex.. The chairs of CCGA, UCFW and UCRP wrote a letter to the President and the Vice President of Research and Innovation asking that they take it up with UCDC to see what can be done. The order was eventually rescinded. However, before it was, it resulted in a great deal of work and anxiety on the part of the campuses and the students.

UCEP Question

UCEP sent UCIE a letter about grading in UCEAP courses. Usually the study center directors oversee grading. Since the grading scale can vary from country to country and from university to university, they questioned if UCIE reviewing and approving the way grades are converted. The Chair said that UCIE doesn't want to micromanage grade conversions. The Chair talked to Associate Dean Ho and Director Nyitray and there is a lot of variation. Ms. Ho said that that the study center director is in charge of the grades. The study center scales do not get modified except when a new director comes in or when there is a programmatic change. There is an academic oversight document which shows that grading scale changes don't happen frequently.

Acknowledgements

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Respectfully submitted,

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