

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009**

**TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:**

**Responsibilities and Duties**

The University Committee on International Education (UCIE) oversees all academic aspects of the UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP), and is responsible for approving new programs, changes in programs, and all program courses and credits. The committee also oversees the formal review of programs and advises the President on the appointment of Study Center Directors. UCIE met in-person three times and held one teleconference during the 2008-09 academic year; the committee's key activities and accomplishments are highlighted in this report.

**EAP Closures/Suspensions/Discontinuances**

<b>Program/Study Center</b>	<b>Host Institution/Locale</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
Concepción	Universidad de Santo Tomás	Chile	Closure	3/12/09, 5/14/09
Grenoble Study Center	University of Grenoble	France	Closure	3/12/09, 5/14/09
Göttingen Study Center	George-August University	Germany	Closure	3/12/09, 5/14/09
Padova Study Center	University of Padova	Italy	Closure	3/12/09, 5/14/09

**EAP Program Development**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Host Institution</b>	<b>Focus</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Open Date</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
Israel	Hebrew University	General	Israel	Re-open	Fall 2009	11/20/08
Engineering & Science Research	Osaka University	Science/Engineering	Japan	New option	Fall 2009	11/20/08
International Relations	University of Tokyo	Research <sup>1</sup>	Japan	New option	Fall 2009	11/20/08
Summer Thailand	Thammasat University	Thai Studies	Thailand	New option	Summer 2009	11/20/08
Concepción	Universidad de Santo Tomás	Spanish language	Chile	Transfer	Fall 2008	11/20/08
Japan Intensive Language Program	Intercultural Institute of Japan	Japanese language	Japan	New venue	Fall 2009	3/12/09
Peking University Summer Program	Peking University	Chinese language	China	New option	Summer 2009	3/12/09
Elementary Japanese Language Program*	Japanese Language Program Institute	Japanese language	Japan	New option	N/A	5/14/09
Sorbonne (Paris IV)*	University of Paris	Year-long immersion	France	New option	Fall 2009	5/14/09

\* Preliminary proposals

**UOEAP Cuts/Business & Strategic Plans**

*2007-08 Budget Cuts:* In the 2007-08 academic year, the universitywide education abroad program office (UOEAP) cut its budget by 15% (85% of these cuts were made to the systemwide office; it also cut the number of its staff positions by 20%. At the start of the 2008-09 academic

<sup>1</sup> This is an opportunity in the University of Tokyo's School of Public Policy for UC graduate students, especially masters' students.

year, total staff at UOEAP stood at 80. Budget cuts ultimately prompted the closure of three study centers (see below).

*UOEAP Business Plan, October 2008:* The UOEAP Business Plan was prepared by Interim EAP Director Michael Cowan in response to a directive from President Yudof, and focused solely on the next three years. The budget plan outlined the following: 1) By 2011-12 UCEAP's General Fund appropriations will be reduced by 85%, or \$16M from the 2005-06 level (UCEAP will retain \$4.4M in appropriations as a base budget); 2) UCEAP will collect and retain student fees, less return to aid; and 3) dramatic and significant cuts will be made to both programs and study centers, including the replacement of most UC faculty study center directors (SCDs) residing abroad. Both UCIE and Academic Council reviewed and [commented](#) on the Plan.<sup>2</sup> In its review, Council emphasized EAP's role as an "academic" program, and called for a joint Senate-Administration Task Force to carefully consider EAP's future.

*UCEAP Strategic Plan, February 2009:* Director Cowan submitted the UCEAP Strategic Plan as a follow-up to the Budget Plan. The Strategic Plan presented a number of key elements that add academic value to UC's academic programs: Strong UC faculty oversight; academic integration into degree programs; UCEAP as a trans-campus program; immersion programs; research, internships, and community service opportunities; exchange programs that internationalize UC campuses; language and Culture programs; and special focus programs. Neither UCIE nor Council formally commented on the Strategic Plan, but UCIE discussed it at their meetings.

### **Study Center/Program Closures**

At their March 12<sup>th</sup> and May 24<sup>th</sup> meetings, UCIE members discussed all four closure proposals as one package. The proposals to close the study centers at Grenoble, Göttingen, and Padova were very controversial, and members received direct correspondence from both study center directors and current and past students from these programs/study centers. In their formal comments, members requested that a better process for timely consultation be developed, and that in future, all such proposals should include much more detailed budget information. ***For the record, UCIE approved the closure of the Concepción program, but did not approve the closure of the study centers at Grenoble, France; Göttingen, Germany; and Padova, Italy.*** In the end, UOEAP closed the Grenoble, Göttingen, and Padova study centers on the basis of financial exigency.

*Concepción, Chile:* Members approved the closure of the Concepción program shortly after their March meeting. At that meeting, UOEAP consultants noted that the curriculum at the Concepción program (originally housed at Universidad de Concepción in Chile) changed from Spanish language acquisition towards linguistics in recent years, which was not appropriate for UC students. UOEAP tried to create its own program at Universidad de Santo Tomás (see above), but found this institution lacking in academic quality, facilities, and accommodations. UOEAP is currently looking into developing a similar program in Argentina.

*Grenoble Study Center, France:* UOEAP consultants brought forward a proposal to close the Grenoble Study Center based on both anemic student interest and the high costs for this program/study center. It was also noted that this program is designed for science and technology students; unfortunately, this cohort rarely has the language pre-requisites and/or interest to make this program worthwhile. Members debated this proposal over several months, considering both a rebuttal by the Study Center Director and a number of student letters of

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<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/reports/mc2yudof.eapbusplan.pdf>.

concern. In its formal response, UCIE noted that while there is an acute financial necessity to reduce costs, it asked for 1) detailed budgets for all of the France programs; and 2) that UOEAP formally respond to the Grenoble/Lyon Study Center Director's rebuttal of the proposal to close the Grenoble Study Center.

*Göttingen Study Center, Germany:* UOEAP proposed to close the Study Center in Göttingen, thereby consolidating the Germany undergraduate programs at Free University, Humboldt University, and Technical University in Berlin. In closing the study center, EAP would maintain its agreement with host institution, George-August University. Members made a formal response to this proposal, suggesting that the already-existing infrastructure could be used for graduate student programming, and recommended postponing this decision by two to four years. In addition, a consortium of UC faculty members with close connections to Germany—former Study Center Directors, researchers with ties to German universities, other faculty doing research on Germany, etc.—should be formed. This consortium could play an important role in not only preserving and strengthening the existing exchange programs, but also in creating new programs while integrating UCEAP more into international research programs and Europe-wide initiatives in international education.

### **UCEAP Task Force**

At the request of Academic Council, Provost Larry Pitts convened a special joint Senate-Administrative UCEAP Task Force to advise him on to advise him on UOEAP's long-term design, and its strategic and business opportunities with the goal of resolving essential issues associated with UCEAP's mission, budget model, governance, the relationship between UOEAP and campus EAP offices, and the faculty's role in program administration and academic oversight. UCIE Chair Errol Lobo, Ian Coulter (UCIE member), and Bjorn Birnir (UCPB member) served on the task force. In addition, UCIE formed two special subcommittees—one on budget and one on study center directors to provide input to the Task Force. The budget subcommittee produced a set of "budget principles," and the study center director subcommittee produced a paper on the value and responsibilities of study center directors and provided significant input towards the reformulation of the UCEAP mission statement. In brief, the Joint Senate-Administrative Task Force made the following nine recommendations:

1. Clarification and specification of an UCEAP mission statement to include its status as an "academic program".
2. The establishment in July 2009 of a UOEAP Governance Advisory Committee appointed by the Provost with substantial representation from the Academic Senate.
3. UOEAP will be relocated to a campus for FY 2010/11 when it will have achieved a level of financial and organizational stability.
4. A small budget working group will be established (including members of UCIE and UCPB) to advise the Governing Committee in time for the 2010/11 budget appropriations process.
5. Once the budget working group has reported, UOEAP, in conjunction with the Governance Advisory Committee and with advice from UCIE and UCPB, should undertake a thorough review of its policies and practices with the aim of achieving further cost efficiencies and savings while supporting the core goals of UCEAP. This will include:
  - a. Reviewing UOEAP operations with a view to streamlining them;
  - b. establishing as a goal the reduction in transaction costs associated with all forms of articulation, so that UOEAP should, as soon as possible, cease UC credit course-by-course articulation; and
  - c. adopting cost-effective administrative and business solutions to program and study center administration.

6. UCIE be asked as part of the budget appropriations cycle (and on an ad hoc basis when required) to advise the Governance Advisory Committee about program selection and/or study center/program closure decisions.
7. UOEAP should have as a line-item component of its annual budget, funds to support faculty involvement as necessary to ensure the quality of the program.
8. The Governance Advisory Committee will be tasked by the Provost to make recommendations about the respective roles and responsibilities of campus faculty and administrative directors, respectively.
9. Campus representatives will discuss the benefits of a common calendar for selection of UOEAP students.

### **Programmatic Issues**

#### Israel/Travel Warning Policy

Members approved the reopening of the Israel program by fall 2009 at the Rothberg School, Hebrew University, which was closed in 2002, due to safety and security concerns. As Israel is still listed on the US State Department Travel Advisory list, an exception to the UCOP's 'Travel Advisory Policy' was made.<sup>3</sup> The program will only have a year-long option, and a study center will not be opened. Instead, UOEAP will rely on Hebrew University's facilities and UOEAP may need to hire a staff person and/or liaison officer. Fees for the program will be approximately \$10,000 per year. Instruction will be in English with the Rothberg School, but courses taught outside of the School will be taught in Hebrew.

#### Canada: Foundation for the Educational Exchange between Canada & the US (Killam Fellowships Program)

This program adds incentives to the existing exchange agreement at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Canada. In the first year, UCEAP would send its students to UBC; Killam would send its students to UC campuses. If successful, UOEAP would open this program up to other Killam university partners within Canada. There is a provision for only two UC students per year, who will get a \$10,000 stipend and health insurance.

### **Formal Program Reviews**

Members approved two formal program review reports in 2008-09:

#### Barbados

Members approved the Barbados formal review and accepted the review committee's findings and recommendations: 1) The University of West Indies could serve as a model for other UCEAP partnerships—there are many opportunities for cultural immersion; and 2) the partnership is currently under-utilized. Therefore, buttressing the advising for this program is important, as it contains opportunities for science, particularly marine science, art, and law. At Barbados, there is a liaison officer at a UC office, but this is just one of many other responsibilities for this person. Other recommendations include administrative reorganization; expansion of the number of internships, and changing the calendar.

#### Hungary

Members approved the Hungary formal review report at the July teleconference, and praised the authors for its high quality.

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<sup>3</sup> As a matter of policy, the University does not sponsor education abroad programs in any country listed on the Department of State travel warning list.

### **Miscellaneous Proposals and Actions**

UOEAP consultants presented the following proposal to UCIE over the course of the year, on which the committee held preliminary discussions: UC freshman summer start on UCEAP; allowing UC students who are in “good academic standing” on their home campuses to participate in some EAP programs<sup>4</sup>; and a preliminary proposal for a certificate program at the Casa de California that would enroll Mexican students from UNAM. In addition, at its May meeting, UCIE approved holding monthly teleconferences/meetings as necessary (as opposed to the current schedule of three meetings per year) in 2009-10 to conduct its business.

### **2009-10 UCIE Formal Review Committees**

Members approved the following programs to be formally reviewed in the 2009-10 academic year: China, Korea, Free University (Berlin, Germany), Madrid, Singapore, and Taiwan.

### **Selection of Study Center Directors**

As a result of budget changes, UCOP review, and consequent restructuring and reorganization of UCEAP, the call to faculty for Study Center Directors was temporarily suspended in 2008-09. A special call to faculty will be used to recruit and hire faculty to serve as study center directors in 2010-2012: France, Japan (Tokyo), Egypt (Cairo)—joint appointment with the American University of Cairo (AUC), residency in-country July through December each year, and Mexico (Mexico City)—shared directorship with UCOP—Casa. Applications for these positions will be due in the summer and the interview process will begin in the fall.

### **Acknowledgements**

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Respectfully submitted:

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<sup>4</sup> This proposal would apply only to those programs that do not have other GPA restrictions; it would increase the cohort of EAP eligible students by 14%.