



**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION**

**Minutes of Meeting**

Friday, March 20, 2026

**I. Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

***Action Taken: The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 8-0-0.***

**II. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership**

*Ahmet Palazoglu, Academic Senate Chair*

*Susannah Scott, Academic Senate Vice Chair*

Senate Chair Palazoglu remarked that the fall census showed that undergraduate enrollment levels have exceeded all expectations and set a new record. The number of international graduate students has gone down a bit.

At his remarks to the Regents, the Chair highlighted the challenges the faculty are facing and the importance of preserving the identity of UC as an R1 university. He added that UC has reached a tentative contract agreement with the UAW, which has averted a strike. The union members are now working to ratify the agreement, and the outcome should be announced soon. The Unit 18 Lecturers will be out of contract in June, and the University is preparing for those negotiations.

The governor's January budget proposal was quite favorable to higher education and included a seven percent increase for ongoing funds; the situation is very good. However, when revenues exceed a certain threshold, a Gann Limit might be triggered. This means the taxpayers would receive some rebates, but there still will be some one-time allocations for things like capital projects.

The Weiner bill is worth \$23B and would support science and health research. UC is now co-sponsoring the bill, which is also being supported by UAW.

UC is in negotiations with the publisher ACS and has been out of contract since the beginning of the year. The ACS is threatening to withhold access to the journals; if that does happen it will impact UC.

**III. Consultation Regarding H1-B Visas**

*Amy Lee, Systemwide Deputy Provost of Academic Personnel*

Deputy Provost Lee stated that she had been working on a lot of visa fee-related issues related to employment and pasted a FAQ in the chat.

<https://ucop.edu/communications/files/h1b-visa-faqs-final.pdf>. She remarked that the University still does not have conclusive guidance from the federal government or UC Legal about whether it will be assessed to institutions of higher education, but it seems likely. Her office has provided the campus AP and HR offices with template language for offer letters.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

#### **IV. Consultation Regarding NRT and International Students**

*Pamela Jennings, Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Studies*

*Cynthia Dávalos, Assistant Vice President, Student/Equity Affairs*

*Shawn Brick, Associate Vice Provost for Student Financial Support*

AVP Dávalos remarked that the filing fee issue has become a point of concern for international graduate students and the university has always carried the risk of not requiring students to have a full course load. However, now the risks are much higher.

AVP Brick added that he interfaces with the registrars, and they want to ensure that they are acting in good faith.

AVP Jennings offered that the University is trying to mitigate this risk in various ways.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

#### **V. Chair's Report**

*Chair Jennifer Schultens*

Chair Schultens remarked that an important part of UCIE's charge is to provide academic oversight for UCEAP processes. She called for review committee volunteers and thanked members for their service.

#### **VI. Campus Reports**

Members reported on issues related to international education from their campuses.

#### **VII. UCEAP Director's Report**

*Dan Waite, UCEAP Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director*

AVP Waite observed that it was an interesting time to be working in international education.

He noted that his department just undertook a significant re-organization, and that he has been working hard over the last eight months with stakeholder meetings, student focus groups, and external consultants. He read a draft mission statement, and noted that the emphasis is aspirational and very access-focused. He hopes to bring new mission, vision, and value statements to the May meeting. He talked at length about the role of UCEAP in the University's broader structure. He noted that UCEAP created a new position of a chief academic officer and Peter Graham from UCR will be assuming that role.

AVP Waite said that UCEAP has made some tough decisions in terms of turning back its travel and conferencing while committing an additional \$250K to scholarships up front for students who have not previously applied to UCEAP.

### VIII. UCEAP Associate Deans' Reports

*Peter Graham, UCEAP Associate Dean*

*David Lopez-Carr, UCEAP Associate Dean*

Associate Dean Graham discussed accessibility, major credit, and academic integration. He invited campuses to make a proposal to submit an AI grant. He noted that his department will be thinking about other access challenges such as academic advising. We would like to work with departments to create four-year plans.

Associate Dean Lopez-Carr discussed AI grants in more detail, as well as student internships

### IX. Program Development

*Sarah Abraham, UCEAP Director of Academic Development*

#### A. For First UCIE Review: New Program Proposals:

##### 1. Barcelona Summer Internship

Director Abraham remarked the Barcelona is a very popular destination but the CIEE program there is fairly expensive. This program is with ExSpanish, which can be more affordable. There are a variety of housing options, including home stays, and housing is guaranteed.

##### 2. Tecnun Summer Engineering Research

This program is with the School of Engineering and is addressing the goal of adding more summer STEM programming. Summer research opportunities are very popular. This is a new partner for UCEAP and will start small at 15 students.

##### 3. Costa Rica Summer Sea Turtle Conservation

The program is small and capped at 30, but there is room for growth. It is for juniors and seniors. As of now, there are no prerequisites, but UCEAP has received comments about requiring a course in a related field.

#### B. For Second UCIE Review: New Program Proposal

##### 1. Monash University

***Action Requested: Vote on Monash University proposal in Executive Session***

Director Abraham explained that this was the second viewing of the proposal and asked if there were any questions.

## **X. Program Reviews**

### **A. One-Year Follow-Up to the 2024-25 Netherlands Review**

Director Abraham explained that this was the one-year response to the 10-year review, which gives UCEAP an opportunity to show progress.

### **B. Proposed 2026-27 UCIE Reviews of UCEAP Programs and Call for Review Committee Nominations**

Director Abraham thanked everyone in advance for submitting names for the review committees.

## **XI. UCEAP Information Items**

*Sarah Abraham, UCEAP Director of Academic Development*

### **A. Program Changes**

Director Abraham gave an overview of the program changes: one in Germany and one in Sicily. Members had some questions.

### **B. Summer STEM Research, University of Bristol**

The Director explained that the Bristol program had already been approved by the committee, but had added some new programming for summer STEM.

## **XII. Systemwide Information and Items Under Systemwide Review**

- Senate Chair Palazoglu's Remarks to the Board of Regents
- Systemwide Senate Review of Proposal to Establish a Systemwide Academic Senate Committee on Climate Change and Sustainability
- Systemwide Senate Review of Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 192 and Senate Regulations 636 and 761
- Systemwide Senate Review Tribal Lands Workgroup Report PDF (Due May 19, 2026)

## **XIII. New Business**

Members discussed language learning and health of the language departments and their interaction with UCEAP. Analyst Harms will look into having some material/presenters related to language learning at the May meeting.

## **XIV. Executive Session**

### **A. *Action Taken: The Monash University Proposal was approved 11-0-0.***

Members discussed the cost of the visa and suggested that perhaps \$250K in scholarships could help foster inclusion.

The committee adjourned at 3:10 p.m.