

## UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

**Minutes of Meeting**  
Friday, May 21, 2021

**I. Consent Calendar**

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

**Action Taken:** *The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 10-0-0.*

**II. Chair's Report – Chair Sathya Guruswamy**

The Chair reminded the committee that it had received an open letter entitled “Re-centering EAP to UC’s Teaching and Research Mission”. UCEAP has written a response; Chair Guruswamy will ask Director Nyitray to summarize the key points. The Chair has prepared a draft letter for the Summer Physics review and the committee’s response. It will be discussed in Executive Session. She also said that the committee might have one more meeting over the summer if needed to discuss any new business; membership ends August 31.

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

*Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Chair*

*Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Vice Chair*

The Council Chair said that the Senate is working to determine what to do to replace the SAT and ACT and is now in its second wave of looking at replacements. The Senate has issued some fall reopening guidelines and recommendations that were distributed on the campuses. The Senate is also conducting a survey on the experience of remote instruction. Council Chair Gauvain encouraged members to fill it out and to urge others to do so in order for the University to use the data very effectively. Some Regents and administrators feel that the remote learning should be continued. The Council Chair and Vice Chair had just completed a budget call with UC Sacramento. The budget has been well-restored and the University is going to benefit from funds for deferred maintenance, mental health support, and some capital projects.

The Council Vice Chair told the committee that a new working group on mitigating COVID-19 impacts on faculty is being convened; he is co-chairing it. He said that the Senate had a meeting with representatives from Chegg at UCEP. There are a lot of complaints about Chegg and Course Hero stealing faculty intellectual property. The Senate has been trying to get UC Legal to make an institutional response. The Senate leadership has spent several months talking to Alex Bustamante, and the Office of Ethics, Compliance and Audit is now going to be sending out a one-page service document about protecting data. The Regents and OP are dealing with the Accellion data breach which is very serious. There are letters being mailed about what University employees can do to protect their information. There will be a change in Regents’ leadership as of July 1. Cecilia Estolano will be the new chair and Rich Leib will be the new vice chair.

The committee had questions for the Senate leadership and there was much discussion.

**IV. Concerns for International Students in Light of COVID-19/Campus Updates**

**Berkeley** – The campus is waiting to see if international students will be able to get visas. Classes will be in-person in the fall, so international students will need to be on-campus.

This is a big issue of concern; what provisions can be expected of faculty for international students. If there is a sizable group that cannot get visas, they need to be accommodated.

Davis – The representative echoed the concerns voiced by the Berkeley member. He said that the campus had specific questions related to India travel restrictions and questions related to vaccines. The campus is also investigating approaches that recognize faculty international activities in tenure and promotion packages.

Irvine – The campus received a letter from international students asking that students who are unable to be in California be able to take a class (or multiple classes) at an institution at their own country and get UC credit. The effort is called Go Local and seems like something that would have to be decided at a UC level. Another issue is the graduate students who are stuck overseas because the consulates are closed. There is a concern that if they are not able to return in fall; they may have to wait a year to return.

Los Angeles – The undergraduate student association held a town hall to address the concerns of the international undergraduates. It was well- attended and the students seemed pleased. The member voiced concern that international students are not being incorporated into the planning for fall reopening. UCLA will be holding hybrid classes in the fall with sections under 60 students being held in-person; students who are overseas will be able to virtually attend the large lectures, but not the smaller sections.

Merced – Conversations on the Merced campus have been about graduate students coming in the fall and making plans for vaccine clinics to be available.

Riverside – Education Abroad is now being directed under Strategic Initiatives and International Recruitment. A group of about 29 faculty formed in response to the dissolution of the Director of Education Abroad position. Separately, the Education Abroad office has developed a one-unit course to stimulate student interest in education abroad and walk students through the application process.

San Diego – The campus had a program that is being proposed between the Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science at UC San Diego and the Jordan University of Science and Technology. It is spearheaded by the faculty at UCSD. Separately, student rent has gone up 70 percent.

San Francisco – The campus had no updates.

Santa Barbara – The campus has been reviewing vaccine policy for international students. The campus is continuing to work on getting a survey of its international students and is waiting on funding.

Santa Cruz - The main issues are around how classes will be delivered and concerns about housing. A lot of students are coming back and it is going to be very hard to find a place to rent. The administration has left fall flexible as far as doing classes remotely, so international students can be accommodated.

Student Representative Anca Barcu – The student discussed her difficulties in trying to attend classes in person in Davis due to COVID and visa regulations.

## **V. UCEAP Director's Report –**

*Director Vivian-Lee Nyitray*

The Director shared her screen and said that her office would find out today if the President was going to allow UCEAP to offer programs conditionally in the fall. If he grants that exception to policy, UCEAP has robust program readiness worksheets for UCOP, UC Legal, and the SIOs to review. She met that morning with the program teams and at this time UCEAP has 50 programs ready to go and four on a watch list. The health services consultant raised some concerns. The program is looking at about 900 students and is urging all students to be vaccinated. UCEAP submitted loan documents yesterday and the campus cost share (\$50-60K per campus) is included in the forward budget. If the programs run, there are no withdrawal fees. If UCEAP

cancels and students have paid housing deposits, the program will reimburse them.

UCEAP is going to ask that the Associate Dean Position be reframed. The UCEAP charter holds that the faculty member be from UCSB; UCEAP is asking to have that provision dropped. The department is also going to change the position somewhat. As of yesterday, the program has a new Director of Health, Safety, and Emergency Response. She is coming to UCEAP with 15 years of experience. She also had state department training and is a member of every study abroad organization based on security. She received unanimous endorsement from everyone in UCEAP and will be starting June 10.

The Director had comments about the letter that was sent to the EVCs and the Senate about how to rethink UCEAP going forward. She felt that there were a number of inaccuracies, and UCEAP responded to them. Director Nyitray said that this is the third such letter that has come around. UCEAP was quite surprised by it and felt that it was rife with misapprehensions. She said she has been working to better manage campus relations and has been meeting with the SIOs and the Study Abroad Directors. One concern voiced in the letter is the diminishing number of faculty directorships; there was a sense that there is less faculty engagement. The letter put forward a series of suggestions. Some have potential, some are cost-prohibitive, and some are not very realistic. The letter was also very concerned about the proliferation of faculty-led programs and the shift in English-language programming. The Director said she had addressed all of these concerns in her written response.

## **VI. UCEAP Associate Dean's Report**

*Associate Dean Hsiu-Zu Ho*

The Associate Dean told the committee that she had been with UCEAP for six years and will be retiring.

Associate Dean Ho told the committee that when she came onboard, AI grants were a new program. This year's awardees were notified on May 20. Only five campuses were awarded because of a limited budget; there was a maximum of \$15K. Over the last six years, UCEAP has awarded grants across social sciences, humanities, and STEM. In the open letter, there was some reference to having smaller grants to faculty and she thinks that is a good idea.

The program has been conducting degree audits so that it can learn what credit students received when they were abroad. The research was able to help the Associate Dean with a prototype of a credit abroad database. UCEAP will be updating databases over the summer. The credit abroad one is publicly available. Associate Dean Ho showed a slide of the Research and Internship Programs of 2019-20 and the research awards of spring 2020. The program had 17 applicants. UCEAP nominates two applicants to go for further competition for the national award. Finally, the Associate Dean showed a slide about the language of instruction in UCEAP programs. Thirty percent of courses were taught in a language other than English and eight percent were taught in a mix of languages.

## **VII. For UCIE Review**

### **A. Korea University**

This proposal is in response to an overwhelming number of requests for programming in Korea. Korea University would accept a large number of students, but would not be able to accommodate all of the students who apply. UCEAP is hoping UCIE can vote on the proposal in

a separate meeting so that it will have the program ready to go in fall 2023 or possibly spring 2022. Korea University is an outstanding partner and is very well-ranked internationally. Director Sarah Abraham discussed the program, saying that it would offer a wide range of programming and would be available at a similar cost as other programs, with a lower entry GPA.

Committee members had questions for Director Abraham and there was considerable discussion.

## **VIII. Program Reviews**

### **A. One-Year Follow-Up Report for the 2019-20 Taiwan Review**

Director Abraham said that there were recommendations made about the timing of the language course – it was conflicting with other courses. There was another question about the credit conversion, which was investigated and resolved. There were not a lot of recommendations in the review; it was largely positive.

### **B. 2020-21 10-Year New Zealand Review**

Member Nina Treadwell commented that the review committee was excellent and two members had spent a lot of time in New Zealand at the universities under review. They had first-hand knowledge and were able to give good feedback. The review committee did have some specific questions. The most significant programmatic change was the shut down of the New Zealand study center which was moved to Australia. The committee asked students if they felt supported; members were concerned that their needs be met. The students affirmed that they were well-supported. The program numbers have been the same over the past 10 years and there could be more done in marketing. The quality of the courses seemed to meet the UCEAP goals. The committee made lots of suggestions for the website. The student feedback was generally good.

### **C. Proposed 2021-22 UCIE Program Review Committee Nominations**

Director Abraham said that she received nominations for the committee and from the campuses. She asked the committee to approve this slate so that UCEAP could move forward with asking nominees if they were interested in serving. The Chair mentioned a difficult experience with a subject-matter expert who did not follow through. She asked if assistant professors should be asked to chair committees since their workload is so high. Perhaps in as much as possible senior faculty should be solicited.

## **IX. Executive Session**

### **A. Vote on the Korea University Program Proposal**

The committee will vote via email.

### **B. Vote on the 2020-21 10-Year New Zealand Review**

**Action Taken: The review was approved 11-0-1.**

### **C. Vote on the Proposed Review Committee Nominations for 2021-22**

**Action Taken: The nomination slate was approved 12-0-0.**

### **D. Open Letter: Re-Centering UCEAP to UC's Teaching and Research Mission**

Minutes are not taken during Executive Session

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Minutes taken by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst

Attest: Sathya Guruswamy, Committee Chair