

## UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

**Minutes of Meeting**  
Friday, July 17, 2020

**I. Consent Calendar**

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

**Action Taken:** *The agenda and minutes were approved 11-0-0.*

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

The chair thanked the members for agreeing to meet over the summer.

**III. Concerns for International Students in Light of COVID-19/Campus Reports**

UCSC- This has been an interesting and challenging year because of the wildcat strike. There wasn't much that could be done for international students because of the rules around visas. This created a lot of problems. There was a national outcry because the international scholar and students' office decided to send out an email that hadn't been vetted. There is so much mistrust now between the students and the administration. There was also the OPT and the F1 visa issue, which was political theater and caused thousands of hours of work.

UCD – The campus doesn't know who is coming; students who had a visa before the consulates closed they may be able to come, depending if there are flights. It is anybody's guess which creates an enormous uncertainty for chairs because all of these people have courses assigned to them to teach. Some of the incoming students may be able to come in and some may not because they have not opened the consulates yet.

UCI – The campus will probably be remote teaching through winter quarter. The campus decided to take all the independent study courses and list them as in-person to show they would have something on campus.

UCB - All international students can stay where they are. They also can be in the States. The Berkeley international office has put out a series of messages. The campus has a grad student who cannot renew her visa because the embassy is closed, but she is slated to teach.

UCLA - It is really important to highlight how disruptive the F1 initiative was – suddenly students needed to find a course to enroll in – that week was pretty difficult and stressful. Zoom is not ideal for people who are living in a different time zone.

UCM - Most of the campus' concerns are with graduate students; the campus does not have many international undergraduates. Most of the concerns are related to the F1 initiates; it has not actually been rescinded. There is still a lot of concern on the campus – they are trying to focus on getting a course on campus that will have research credit.

UCR – The campus has been able to hire a new vice provost for international affairs and a new director for the international scholars center The committee wants to change the scope of the CIE

committee to make it about all international affairs. They are also looking at changing the meetings from quarterly to monthly. UCR will be following the online teaching model; faculty can petition for in-person classes.

UCSB – there was a divisional meeting last week to try to understand what is going to happen with the restrictions. Out of 3000 students, OISS was able to issue I20s for about for about 150 graduates and about 150 undergraduates. OISS was very concerned about that.

UCSD – The campus had decided that all the research and independent study classes would count as in-person. The visa concerns are secondary to graduate students who are abroad who have US bank accounts trying to navigate the complexity of tax laws. Another main concern is for international students who remain in our country and their basic needs. The international students' office has been fundraising. The campus has had different peer mentoring programs in place for academic and social support mentoring.

UCSF – The campus is continuing online through the fall quarter. Winter quarter has not yet been decided. Other topics have been covered by the other campuses

#### **IV. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership**

*Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Academic Council Chair*

*Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Vice Chair*

Academic Senate Chair Kum-Kum Bhavnani told the committee that the Regents had a meeting and they discussed the SAT issue. The first half of the discussion was on Thursday. The Standardized Testing Task Force representatives were there and discussed the results of their report. The President then presented her recommendation that the University go test optional until fall 2022 and after that go to test blind (2022-24) then a new test needs to be in place by 2025. If a test is not ready by 2025, then standardized testing should be dropped altogether. The President also said that she wanted to develop a feasibility study and look at how to develop a new test based on content - this could be with the CSU as well since they also do the A-G prerequisites. The regents voted 23-0 to adopt the President's recommendation.

A remote instruction survey has been given and analyzed. On the whole, it found that instructors found it quite difficult to teach remotely. Instructors felt that they had less time with students. Twenty percent of instructors also said they did not have a regular quiet space from which to teach.

A Climate Crisis Task Force has been set up following the December resolution passed by Council about supporting the University's move to carbon neutrality.

Extending Faculty Diversity Task Force – Chair Bhavnani set this up this year to be a brainstorming group and it has been meeting. They have found that retention is the key. There are a number of ideas they will put forward for grants to the Advancing Faculty Diversity Group which is part of Academic Affairs.

The Task Force on Online Undergraduate Education has been looking at whether the UC will ever offer a full time online undergraduate degree and what that will entail.

The UC Merced Chancellor was announced: Juan Sánchez Muñoz.

Budget: Because of COVID-19 the CFO's office calculated said that the University would be \$2B

in the red in March but it went down a bit in April because the beds that were reserved for COVID-19 were released for elective surgeries. The University does not know how much it will be in the red on June 30. At the May Revise, the state was \$51B in the red and the governor has said that the UC must take a 10% cut in its budget for 2021. UCOP has set up a small working group to develop a plan for how people can talk about expenditure reductions.

**V. UCEAP Director's Report – Director Vivian-Lee Nyitray**

The Director shared what UCEAP is doing in the wake of the murder of George Floyd. They put the President's statement up on their website and formed a diversity, equity, and inclusion team. They are requiring all staff to complete series of courses on managing implicit bias in the UC Learning Center. They are also working with Diversity Abroad to increase staff access to online training materials.

Pandemic related program suspensions: 1241 outbound students were affected and 1126 inbound were affected. There were students who could not or would not return to their home. UCEAP has been inviting suggestions from the advisory committee on the best strategies on maintaining communication channels at all levels.

UCEAP has conducted a post-COVID-19 survey of all UCEAP staff and is presently collating responses and is forming a spring 2021 preparedness team. The Director said that she felt really good that out of this chaotic crisis UCEAP was able to put together a reasonable sequence of plans to go forward.

UCEAP is reviewing programming: academic relevance, health and safety concerns, student appeal, logistical and cost issues. The AI continues to meet all summer. They want to have some in-house efficiencies and want to avoid choice fatigue while maintaining some boutique programs of particular value.

UCEAP is a finalist in the 2020 Go Abroad Innovation Awards in the Marketing and Digital Media category. It was also a finalist in the Pioneer Awards for its campaign on How UCEAP Changed Me. They also won Campus France Transatlantic Mobility Program award with Sciences Po. It is a \$15K matching grant. Will allow students to have scholarships.

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

The Associate Dean said that despite the limited budget, UCEAP was able to fund two Academic Integration grants: UCSB Global Studies and UCSD Linguistics. In addition to the COVID survey, there are two other program evaluations underway. There were over 700 spring/year participants that responded to this survey. She shared some of the survey results with the committee. She also talked about the 2019 Summer Internship Awards – they received a number of applications and awards were given to students across the campuses and disciplines.

**VII. Program Development – New Program Proposals**

**A. Summer Research at Vilnius University**

***Action Requested: Approve in Executive Session***

This program is modeled after NTU so it is a research program with cultural aspects. The focus is on the students being in the research lab but then they also learn more about where they are. There was more information about their partnerships with industries. This is a school that has gone up in the QS rankings 178 positions in the past 8 years to 423 out of over 1000 universities. This is a school that is putting a lot of money into it and they are pulling postdocs

from other universities.

## VIII. Program Reviews

### A. 2019-20 10-Year Taiwan Review

**Action Requested: Approve in Review Report in Executive Session**

The review occurred in mid-April. It is fairly small program and it is the flagship summer internship program. There are some speedbumps they are already trying to address. The team went there for the site visit there was a sense that there is declining participation. Some discipline-specific marketing might help for the natural sciences. The most major issue is that students are feeling isolated. There is little contact between domestic and international students. The student clubs are the most used ways for students to interact but they are meeting in the evening, when students are getting their Chinese language instruction. Maybe students could be partnered with a Taiwanese student. It is an extremely strong program and could get stronger. It is one of the crown jewels of UCEAP study abroad.

### B. 2019-20 Three-Year Europe Multi-Site Review

**Action Requested: Approve in Review Report in Executive Session**

This is a good program; the evaluation team had a couple of recommendations. There were some problems they had with some of their sites so two of them ended up in Italy and that narrowed down the focus quite a bit. This is really well liked and it has shown great improvement.

### C. 2019-20 Three-Year India Review

**Action Requested: Approve in Review Report in Executive Session**

This is a six week program: four weeks of instruction and two weeks of internship. There is a pre-program (basic conversational Hindi) and the structure of the program is based on lectures and modules. The students are generally happy; the key difficulty is the low enrollment. It is a very broad program; it could be given more depth would maybe attract some upper-division students.

### D. 2019-20 Three-Year Hong Kong Review

**Action Requested: Approve in Review Report in Executive Session**

This is a program at the Chinese university in Hong Kong. It is focused mostly in the life sciences and that tends to be the students who are attracted to it. Students apply for research programs that interest them and they usually get one of their top three. Participation has been OK but dropped off a little bit recently maybe due to unrest in Hong Kong. The research is very organized; the GPA is 2.85 but the students tend to be 3.5. There seemed to be quite a few opportunities in physics and engineering.

## IX. Information Items

### A. Program Closures

- 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

B. Summer Virtual Internship Program in Europe Program

Next summer UCEAP is offering a virtual internship through CEA – they are going to maintain the key part of the internship that we want: resume building, transferable skills, and student growth. It is going to build a global network and learn to work in a global work environment. This is a new type of study abroad experience for students who cannot travel: for DACA students and students who have family commitments. This allows incredible flexibility.

X. Executive Session

A. Consultation with Michael Lazzara and Joanna Regulska

Mr. Lazzara and Ms. Regulska discussed the letter they had presented to the committee. They intended it for the next Council meeting. They asked for any feedback from the committee and then asked that UCIE transmit the letter to Senate Chair Bhavnani. The committee discussed it at length and was largely supportive. The Senate Chair recommended sending it to UCAP after it had been to Council.

B. Summer Research at Vilnius University

**Action Requested: Vote on Proposal**

Committee members expressed concern that the program would not be popular because UC students would not know anything about Lithuania and the ranking of the university. Will students go to Lithuania? The institution and its location are very important in the life sciences. What is the quality of the research being conducted: it seems questionable. Are they offering the state-of-the-art technologies and how is their research financed? Is there an exploring the culture course and can they provide some of the details of that. Can they supply a handful of what the projects would look like? There is a feeling that the proposal seems preliminary. What is the commitment from faculty; what is the quality of the mentorship. The Chair said she would draft a letter and circulate it before sending it to UCEAP.

C. 2019-20 10-Year Taiwan Review

**Action Taken: The report was approved 11-0-0.**

D. 2019-20 Three-Year Europe Multi-Site Review

**Action Taken: The report was approved 11-0-0.**

E. 2019-20 Three-Year India Review

**Action Taken: The report was approved 11-0-0.**

F. 2019-20 Three-Year Hong Kong Review

**Action Taken: The report was approved 11-0-0.**

G. 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, is 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.

**XI. New Business**

There was no new business.

The committee adjourned at 3:42.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms.  
Attest: Sathya Guruswamy