

## UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

**Minutes of Meeting**  
Friday, October 15, 2021

**I. Consent Calendar**

Approval of the Agenda

**Action Taken:** *The agenda was approved as noticed 7-0-0.*

**II. Chair's Report – Chair Julian Schroeder**

The Chair introduced himself and welcomed committee members. He asked members to introduce themselves. He remarked that - because of COVID-19 - a lot of Education Abroad students returned home, while others preferred to stay overseas because they felt safer. The number of students expected to study abroad this year is predicted to grow slowly for now.

**III. Campus Updates**

UCB – All instruction is in-person, and classes are going well. There has been high vaccination compliance rate (99 percent). A number of international students are at the campus and they are faring well.

UCD- The campus has managed its COVID transmissions very well. Classes are in-person for the most part. The campus has an Office of Global Affairs which is increasing in size every year. The Office has faculty-led student abroad programs; decisions are made on a country-by-country basis. Students who are coming two Davis and have not been vaccinated have the ability to get vaccinated on campus.

UCI – The campus' study abroad cohort dropped two years ago; it now has gone back up. The biggest cohort is to Korea; 75 students are going to Korea this year. The campus Study Abroad Center has had some restructuring. There is now a position of Global Risk Manager who is available 24/7 to take care of students who are overseas. The campus also has outbound and inbound advisers.

UCLA – So far this year, the campus has 85-90 percent of its international students back on campus. Large lecture classes are still being held over Zoom. Vaccination compliance has been high. The campus Study Abroad Office is planning outreach and enrollment for study abroad. Another issue that came up last year is the issue of the Presidential Proclamation 10043 that targets schools in China that have military ties, but it is painted in very large strokes. The member suggested that the committee write a letter to Council about this Proclamation.

UCM – Almost all of the campus' student body is first-generation and low-income. Most of Merced's international students are graduate students and the campus has very few – if any – students who go abroad. A week or two before classes started, Merced had 500-1000 students who did not have housing. The campus was able to get housing in local hotels and in new student housing. Vaccination compliance and masking have been very good.

UCR – The member was not present.

UCSD – The arrival of international students has gone smoothly this year. The campus has a low COVID positivity rate because of testing. Seventy-seven percent of UCSD classes are in-person. There is an issue of encouraging and financing first-generation students so that they can go abroad. The campus is trying to get the development office onboard.

UCSF – The member was not present.

UCSB - Enrollment and engagement are back up from last year. OISS is looking at streamlining visa processes. Like Merced, the campus had housing issues at the start of the

year. Ninety-eight percent of students are vaccinated. The campus has a new Global Engagement Office; it is a superset of the CIE.

UCSC –The campus is experiencing many of the same issues already mentioned. There is now a Global Engagement effort which is bigger and more all-encompassing than CIE. The CIE is learning how to interact with that enterprise.

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

*Vivian-Lee Nyitray, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director*

The Director introduced herself and gave an overview of the history of UCEAP. She explained that the program was established in 1962 and was concentrated on immersion programs where students would go to a host institution and study in the local language. (This approach has changed significantly over the course of the following years.) In 2008-09 UCEAP was restructured financially. It is now self-supporting and is reliant on student tuition and fees. In 2018, the state auditor expressed concerns about OP and the Office brought in the Huron Consulting Group to look at the OP budget and suggest how to streamline processes and make them more efficient. One of the recommendations was to separate some systemwide programs from the OP budget and distribute them among the campuses. Accordingly, UCEAP was relegated to the UCSB campus. However, the program remains completely self-supporting. It runs some processes through UCSB for efficiency and the Director still reports to OP.

Prior to the pandemic, UCEAP sent out six thousand students to nearly 40 countries and brought in 1500. In March 2020, in response to COVID, UCEAP had to bring students back to the US; the program had almost 2800 students in other countries. President Trump closed the borders, which resulted in a deluge of panicked parents calling the office. Meanwhile, the program worked to get students as much credit as it could and keep them financially intact as possible. In some cases, UCEAP kept students overseas so they could retain their financial aid. In the current academic year, UCEAP did not send students out over the summer, but has almost 900 students overseas in the fall. The program is waiting to hear from the President to see if it will be able to send students abroad in winter and spring. Assuming it is able to, UCEAP anticipates having 1000 students out from January through the end of June.

There has been some tension over the past few years with campuses, but the Director commented that those tensions had “turned a corner” and were no longer as strident. In addition, faculty have been concerned about the closure of some UCEAP study centers which has resulted in fewer opportunities for faculty to be study center directors. The Director explained that in some locations, the faculty member is somewhat superfluous and the positions were very expensive to maintain. She also said that UC is perhaps the only major American institution that still has study center directors. Furthermore, some partners feel that it is insulting that the University sends someone there. The Director said she was exploring ways for faculty to be abroad and has talked about establishing a short term scholar-in-residence program which would open up opportunities to more faculty. Another concern of faculty is the maintenance of academic integrity and quality in UCEAP programs. The Director stated that if UCIE feels that the quality of a certain program is not where it should be, UCEAP does not need to continue it.

In the past, said Director Nyitray, UCEAP's program development was somewhat scattershot. In the past three years, she has created a position of Director of Academic Programming and Development. The selection of a school or program often comes from faculty suggestions. There are other factors, in addition to quality and academic integrity. UCEAP wants to make sure that students across the board have as much access as possible. Also taken into account are medical

facilities with English language care, access for students with disabilities, and an environment that is LGBTQ friendly. She noted that UC students are risk-averse when it comes to their GPA, and prefer English-language programming. .

## **V. Overview of UCEAP Research Tools for UCIE**

*Yeana Lam, UCEAP Senior Research Analyst*

Analyst Lam shared some of the data resources that are available through the UCEAP research unit. Information regarding enrollment, economic value of education abroad, scholarships and awards, curriculum integration and more is available. Other information that might be of interest to faculty is recent enrollments by campus, historical enrollment, and retention of applicants. Student participation by country is available, as are outbound demographics by grade, ethnicity, gender, residency, and admission status. Ms. Lam shared her screen and showed a demonstration of the capabilities of the research system. She explained that UCEAP has curriculum integration resources that show the kinds of academic credit that have been granted at both the campus and department level. Ms. Lam continued to show various dashboards and reports with members. She explained that she would be sending an invitation to access the research unit data to the committee members. There were some questions and discussion.

## **VI. Program Reviews**

### **A. 2020/21 10-Year Australia Review**

*UCIE Chair Julian Schroeder*

Chair Schroeder said that - overall - the review committee had a very positive impression of this program. However, there were a number of recommendations. One area of concern was the high cost of living in Australia. It was recommended that students be given better information with regard to the cost of living and/or that they perhaps be given some financial support. Separately, in the past, the required GPA was 3.0 but for reasons of inclusion and diversity, many of the programs reduced it to 2.7 or 2.85; this was reviewed very favorably by the committee. The participating Australian campuses all advertise their programs to the students, but nearly all students prefer to go to Sydney or Melbourne and some to Brisbane (University of Queensland). One program the Chair highlighted was the Australian National University in Canberra. Fewer than a handful of students go to ANU each year. Accordingly, after trying some time to increase enrollment to ANU, UCEAP has decided to close that offering – there simply were not enough students enrolled to keep it active. Director Nyitray offered that there might be an opportunity for parliamentary internships in Canberra, which might attract more students. Chair Schroeder added that the review committee looked at the University of Queensland, which had introduced a program called the Pacific Island Environmental and Community Health Program. He said it is quite amazing, and that the team recommended that it be advertised more strongly. Australia has been very strict because of COVID; the country says it will be allowing students to come back at some to be determined time in 2022. The committee discussed the review.

### **B. 2020/21 Three-Year Netherlands Review**

*Bill Tang (UCI)*

Mr. Tang explained that this review was about Maastricht University with the Center of European Studies. The students said very positive things; they found it very rewarding. The program has included trips for students to go outside of the learning environment and those were also enjoyed. There was some concern about grade inflation, but the team did not feel like that was an issue. The item of greatest concern is the issue of living conditions. Students had quite a few complaints about the dorms. In addition, they wished they knew some Dutch

before they went to the Netherlands. Some students found one introductory item that focused on the era of Dutch imperialism to be offensive. Finally, the appeal of the programs to science majors could be enhanced by making it clear if lab experience is included and what that entails. These concerns are being addressed. The committee discussed the review briefly, with a focus on the use of English as a primary language overseas.

C. 2020/21 Three-Year Cyprus Review

*Michelle Leslie (UCM)*

Ms. Leslie remarked that this is a fairly young program and it was cut short by the pandemic. This is the only offering in Cyprus and it is the only time that UCEAP has partnered with a for-profit institution. Unfortunately, this institution was not very highly ranked. The committee went through and looked at everything – the syllabi and the student reviews - and the ultimate recommendation was to discontinue the program. The team specifically was asked if UCEAP should keep working with the University of Nicosia and it was felt there were too many problems and not enough benefits. The number of students was very low (10 or so in the global semesters program and a few more in summer physics), and students did not feel like they were getting a rewarding cultural experience. Problems with the summer physics program had been discussed at the end of the preceding academic year with consideration to terminate the Cyprus offering. The complaints about the academic experience were very striking. All of the students reported lower or significantly lower quality of instruction compared to UC. Students felt like they missed out on their study abroad experience. In the summer they were by themselves on the campus. Furthermore, it had been advertised that they would be near the beach and they were an hour away. The committee had some questions.

VII. **Information Item**

A. Program Closures

- Australian National University – This program was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- University of Warwick – Students want to go to the UK but are picky about where. The program attracted very few students. The program has also have been difficult to work with
- Summer Global Internship, Toronto – CIEE is no longer offering its internship program in Toronto.
- Summer Physics Program, University of Nicosia – This program was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- Summer Physics Program, University of Cork – The program was unwilling to make some of the changes that were necessitated by the review.
- Summer Physics Program, Roma Tre University – This program never ran. It was supposed to start during the summer.

VIII. **Executive Session**

- A. ***Action Taken:*** *The committee put forward that ANU be given the opportunity to establish internships with the parliament in Canberra. It should also be given some time to “recover” from the pandemic. The timeline is to be developed by UCEAP; they should respond by the next meeting. The 2020/21 10-Year Australia Review was approved 10-0-0.*
- B. ***Action Taken:*** *The 2020/21 Three-Year Netherlands Review was approved 10-0-0.*

- C. **Action Taken:** *The 2020/21 Three-Year Cyprus Review was approved 10-0-0.*
- D. **Action Taken:** *The following UCIE Representatives to this Year's Program Reviews*
- *Ireland – Jorge Hankamer*
  - *Scandinavia – Spencer Smith*
  - *South Africa and Botswana – Jennifer Schultens*
  - *Korea – Andrea Goldman*

The committee adjourned at 1:47 pm.

Minutes taken by Fredye Harms, UCIE Analyst  
Attest, Julian Schroeder, UCIE Chair