

## UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

**Minutes of Meeting**

Friday, October 20, 2017

Attending in person: Eduardo Macagno (Chair), Mark Stacy (UCB Alternate), Victoria Bernal (UCI), Jimin Lee (UCSC Alternate), Lothar VonFalkenhausen (UCLA), Lei Liang (UCSD), Gerald Dubowitz (UCSF), Sathya Guruswamy (UCSB), Shane White, Bhavik Muni (student representative), Jiani Kayla He (student representative), Fredye Harms, Sarah Abraham, Vivian-Lee Nyitray

Attending via videoconference: Frank Wilderson (Vice Chair), Max Auffenhammer (UCB Alternate), Michel Lazzarra (UCD), Covadonga Lamar-Prieto (UCR)

**I.****Welcome, Logistics, and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed committee members and had them introduce themselves and their role in international education on the campuses.

**II. Chair's Report – Chair Eduardo Macagno**

In the past few years, UCIE has spent considerable effort trying to get its bylaws changed. The changes proposed by UCIE were intended to reflect the growing role of international affairs within the University and to enable UCIE to have a role in systemwide international education efforts. In the past, the committee's role was passive: it did not to initiate policy or recommendations. This past June, with key help from Jim Chalfant, the bylaw changes were approved. The Chair said that it is time for the committee to start thinking about the kind of roles it can play in light of the increasing international efforts that are coming from the Office of the President. The Senate did not seem to be in the loop or providing feedback directly on the Mexico Initiative in particular. Another topic might be the integration of international students into the UC system - not as funding source, but as students who are owed as good an education as domestic students. International students are bringing their own culture with them, and perhaps UCIE could be part of integrating those cultural elements into the campuses. The Chair expressed concern that students are going abroad but staying in the English-language sphere. In closing, the Chair mentioned that there is a new push to have 30 percent of UC students have an "international experience." This topic will be discussed more fully in Director Nyitray's report and at the next meeting.

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

Director Nyitray discussed some of the operational aspects of EAP. Shortly before she was hired as the Director, the EAP governing committee approved a reduction in the student participation fee from \$900 to \$600. At that time, EAP appeared to have a fiscal reserve built up. However, this reduction resulted in a structural deficit; EAP was bringing in less money than it needed to operate. Director Nyitray is requesting that the board revisit the student participation fee now that EAP has an excellent budget and finance director. EAP intends raise the student participation fee to \$1K, a rate that should be able to remain static for some time. The program will be offering \$1M/year in scholarship funds for the next five years; those funds will go to the campuses based roughly on the percentage of EAP participation per campus. In addition, EAP is helping fund additional staffing at the Study Abroad offices for two years at 50 percent. It is unclear if EAP will be able to continue that funding after two years, but it is working with the treasurer's office to try to make it possible.

International Thinking Day was held in March and included the chancellors, plus another rep from each campus, and outside guests. The impetus for International Thinking Day came out of the Council of Chancellors where they identified internationalization as an important factor in a UC education. Two decisions came out of that day which were then given to Provost Dorr who passed them on to Vice President Art Ellis when she retired. First was to increase undergraduate international experience from 15 percent to 30 percent, and the second was the creation of international UC gateway centers that could be bases for alumni activities. The Director noted that these initiatives also ought to include resource allocation if they were to have a chance of success.

The “Getting to 30%” systemwide meeting on October 16 was intended to help identify the problems with international education from a process point of view. A broad swath of campus units were represented, but no students and very few faculty (from the Systemwide Senate). Part of the discussion outlined some of the challenges for students and the need to outreach to different groups of students: athletes, honors students, etc. Also discussed were the academic challenges currently faced: students today are not interested in going abroad for the experience alone; they want to know what courses they will take and how will they count toward their degree. Discussion revolved around administrative issues rather than academic content or curricular aspects. The Director said that the next steps are being determined now and will be distributed to everyone who was at the meeting and reported to the Council of Vice Chancellors and the Senate.

The director called attention to a protocol that has to do with reciprocity students. These are a special class of international students who are often overlooked. They are non-controversial in terms of the State’s concern with slots for Californians, but they are often not identifiable in certain ways in the registrars' databases. As a result, they are sometimes treated like extension students. They need to be treated as if they are regular UC students. EAP would like to make sure that the University treats reciprocity students fairly to honor the obligations it has made with international partners. There was a proposal to have NRST waived while students are in a UC-based program. The vice chancellors requested hard numbers so that the possibility can be adequately evaluated. The Director added that faculty engagement is essential to boost education abroad numbers.

EAP enrollments likely will be slightly down from last year as part of a reaction to the terrorist incidents in Europe. Applications for 2018-19 are looking more positive as those concerns fade. EAP is also expanding programming that has been requested by departments. The long-range forecast includes increasing summer participation (it doesn’t disrupt academic planning) and increasing English-language programming. Students prefer to do their coursework in English because they don’t want to jeopardize their GPA. EAP will be expanding in Global Health and will be partnering with campuses for professional students and undergraduates that can function as TAs. Thailand, Ghana, Mexico are the existing global health partners.

#### **IV. Program Reviews (part 1)**

##### **A. 2016/17 Thailand 10-Year Review**

*NB: The faculty reviewer was not able to be at the meeting and had a colleague give his report.*

The reviewer noted that the overall feedback was positive for the program. Most of the courses are at the UC level and are well-received by the students. Some recommendations included better integration with Thai students and Thai culture, including the development of a requirement for a once-weekly three-hour language course. The language barrier is reducing the connection with the culture. A second recommendation is to expand the variety of course choices, and the third is about increasing rigor. There was some discussion about expanding the internships that are available, offering more independent study courses, and expanding the number and type of summer programs.

Overall, the reviewer felt it was a very positive program and a great experience in need of some fine tuning.

**Action Taken (in Executive Session): The Program Review was approved 9-0-0.**

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

*Shane White, Academic Council Chair*

Academic Council Chair Shane White thanked the committee members for their service and involvement. He explained that he would be providing an overview of things that affect the University broadly.

UC has been responding to a state audit and examining its costs, processes, and spending.

Last week the council passed a memorandum to the President about finding \$15M to fund an additional 1500 undergraduate resident students. The memo had three key points:

1. Budget decisions should prioritize the preservation of academic systemwide programs and services based on their contributions to the core teaching, research, and public service missions of the University (prioritized in that order);
2. Budget decisions should prioritize the preservation of systemwide academic programs and services that support multiple UC campuses, no matter where the programs are located;
3. Proposals for cuts to centrally-funded academic programs and services should be subject to review by the Academic Senate.

Seven years ago, the University created a new tier of the retirement system, and part of that limited the amount of support that the Office of the President gave to retiree health. Ramping down the University contribution meant that the cost shifted onto the employee or retiree. This has become intersected with two other items: 1) UC has been committed to limiting the amount of increased contribution to health care - both for retirees and active employees - to levels lower than medical inflation; 2) both the retirement and health costs have ongoing future liabilities. The goal of the Senate is to maintain the benefit at the level at which we have it without placing an undue burden on retirees. There is a letter that will be posted by Council which outlines this position.

Chair White added that another area that will be of importance in the coming year is transfer students. The Master Plan says that UC should take 60 percent transfer students to 40 percent freshmen. However it is generally agreed that the target should be 1:2. The most selective campuses have been able to achieve that. However, other campuses are doing an extraordinary job recruiting first-generation and underrepresented freshmen, but are being pressured to instead focus on transfer students. The University needs to do the right thing ethically with regard to first-generation and transfer students. He also discussed President Napolitano's leadership in protection for DACA students, staff, and faculty.

## **VI. Program Reviews (part 2)**

### **B. 2016/17 Czech Republic 3-Year Review**

The reviewer noted that this is a program that is run through CIEE and part of their coursework takes part at their center in Prague. Students can also take courses at the film and television school. The diversity of course offerings was impressive and there were many opportunities for students to engage with the local culture outside of the classroom. This program has strong numbers, and tends to attract students mostly from UCB and UCSC. It experienced some

growing pains in 2015 due to an influx of students that the staff was not adequately able to handle at the time; this led to poor reviews of the program. The staff was bolstered and ratings went back up. The reviewer said there is a need to keep tabs on the rigor of the program and also a need to provide more oversight for the “buddy program.” EAP’s response was very favorable; these issues are being worked on or have already been solved. Overall the evaluation was quite positive.

***Action Taken (in Executive Session): The Program Review was approved 9-0-0 with one proviso: UCIE would like to see how the UCEAP response to the committee's concerns progresses in a year. In particular, UCIE would like to see how quality of courses has improved. EAP is asked to provide course syllabi at that time for review.***

- C. One-Year Follow-Up Report for 2015/16 Hong Kong 10-year review  
EAP Consultant Sarah Abraham explained that the Hong Kong 10-year review came last year and was approved; what followed was the one-year report. Some highlights included: a summer internship program is on track for development, the grade adjustment protocol is now being applied, and a three-country multi-site program is being developed with South Korea, Japan, and Hong Kong. Overall, the report was largely positive, and enrollment numbers are going up.
- D. 2017/18 Brazil and Chile 10-Year Review: Questions for the Review Committee  
***Action Taken (in Executive Session): The questions were approved 9-0-0.***
- E. 2017/18 UK (Sotheby’s) 3-Year Review: Questions for the Review Committee  
***Action Taken (in Executive Session): The questions were approved 9-0-0.***
- F. 2017/18 Netherlands (Wageningen University) 3-Year Review: Questions for the Review  
***Action Taken (in Executive Session): The questions were approved 9-0-0.***

## **VII. Information Items**

- A. New Iberian Studies Al Andalus program at the University of Granada  
EAP is adding a new program at an existing partner university. This is a fall quarter program where students can advance their Spanish and gain some context for historic and contemporary ties between the Spanish and Arabic world. It will be very favorably priced and can also be a gateway for an immersion program.
- B. Changes to the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology Program  
These changes are minor tweaks to make the program accessible to more students. Currently there is a spring program that starts with an internship that starts in January and then has coursework; this works well for semester students but not so well for quarter students. By reversing the order – first the classes and then the internship in the summer – the program hopes to attract more students while giving them the same experience as the students who intern in the fall.
- C. Program Closures  
EAP identified the following programs that should be closed due to low numbers or administrative difficulties:
- University of East Anglia – low enrollment.
  - ENS in France – very low enrollment – it is meant more for graduate student exchange.
  - European Transformation – semester option hard time getting student visas for the Italian portion.

- Brazilian studies through CIEE – they are pulling due to lack of interest.

**D. Target of Opportunity Grants**

EAP has had these grants for many years but always restricted them to EAP staff or campus study-abroad colleagues. If members were traveling and wanted to see a nearby study center, EAP would let them apply for a little extra money to cover local travel and lodging, etc. The program has now decided to extend that offer to its governing committee and to faculty who serve on UCIE. A post-travel report is due within a month of the faculty member's return.

**VIII. Executive Session**

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

**IX. Campus Reports**

Campus reports were not shared due to lack of time.

**X. New Business**

There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 3:29.