

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Notice of Meeting

Friday, December 18, 2020

- I. **Consent Calendar**
Approval of the Agenda
Action Taken: *The agenda and minutes were approved with one correction to the minutes.*
- II. **Chair's Report** – *Chair Sathya Guruswamy*
The Chair had the student representative introduce himself.
- III. **Concerns for International Students in Light of COVID-19/Campus Updates**

Berkeley – International students are facing the Trump administration rules and some important regulations are still pending. The ninth circuit court of California has affirmed an injunction against the Trump ruling, but it will have to be played out. The proposed rule would have a detrimental effect on international students. The second issue is duration of status – this is a proposed rule and it appears that the administration may bypass the 23,000 comments against it. If this rule passes, it will have an enormous impact on the University. UC will have to verify the immigration status of everyone who works for the University. It will switch from allowing students to study for a period of time and will replace that with a gate; students would have to apply for an extension. Many things are up in the air and it is uncertain what to tell students. Nothing is official yet.

Davis- This campus is in the same discussions. The general sense was that the incoming Biden administration will keep the rules from coming through. In addition, the campus had a few meetings with its global affairs program. It is possibly including global contributions in the merit and promotion process.

Irvine – The divisional faculty senate is looking into recognizing the merit and promotion process. At the campus CIE meeting there was a fruitful conversation about what people are doing to internationalize their courses. The campus has compiled a list of those courses and it will also be posted on the websites. Not everybody is aware that there are these resources to support faculty. There was a lot of sharing of information. The office of global engagement said international enrollment has held steady.

Los Angeles – The UCLA campus has made a determination about the international students and has decided that the NRST will be waived during the pandemic. It also extended the amount of time that students can TA. There is concern for international undergraduates who may be expected to attend classes or take exams in the middle of the night. This is a real concern for international freshmen. The campus is looking to set up town halls for international graduate and undergraduate students.

Merced – There are no updates with regards to our international students. The discussion of PNP is relevant to Merced and the campus is deciding if it is going to extend that into the spring.

Riverside – The decision about PNP has been left to the departments. Academic advisors are helping to advise students interested in using a PNP for classes that they are using for their major or minor, to inform them on how such decisions might impact their financial aid and other possible concerns.

UCR was a part of a successful lawsuit to strike down a rule with H1B Skilled Worker Visas.

San Diego – The committee met in November and approved new education abroad programs. And looked into the situation with the international students. Apparently a number of international students are having problems accessing classes during the synchronous time, however asynchronous exams create a lot of issues with plagiarism. Incoming freshmen are not feeling connected.

San Francisco – The member said that most of the UCSF issues had been discussed already by other members.

Santa Barbara –The campus has been making progress in making a student video with presentations from international undergraduates. It is also continuing with its bi-annual international student survey with some changes this year. The campus has noticed that a lot of surveys have been done but they don't necessarily disaggregate international and domestic students. The campus now has a Senior International Officer.

IV. UCEAP Director's Report –

Director Vivian-Lee Nyitray

The Director said that spring quarter and late start semester programs have been cancelled; there was too much uncertainty. UCEAP is planning on running summer 2021; decisions will be made by March 15 (this may vary by location). Virtual programs will be offered both full- and part-time.

She said at this point, all program decisions have been made on an all-or-nothing basis (go-no go). Students are hoping to go and where it is feasible, UCEAP is open to that. However, it needs to be taken to the Provost. Some of the program's partners are deciding to offer some or all of their summer program virtually and have asked if UCEAP is interested; the program is going to be selective. The program also is offering virtual internships.

The program received a Campus France grant that has been opened to UCI and UCSD. The application numbers are greater than the number of spaces it has. It does allow for a short term travel option after the course is over. It is not clear when that will happen.

The Director emphasized that UCEAP has been thoughtful and good stewards of its funds and has been creative about how it can maximize its position. Prior to making the decision to cancel the late start and summer session programming, it was barely in the black; now the program is running in a deficit. April, May, and June would be the time that UCEAP would need to pay deposits if it was running programs in the summer. The Provost is aware of the situation and has assured a small loan that UCOP could provide. The Advisory Committee meets in January and UCEAP will present its budget to them at this time. This is not dire and may be helped by some savings the program has been able to achieve.

The online health and safety module is complete. All of the country-specific modules will be

completed by February. The program's intent is to make it available for campus use.

A direct processing workgroup with campus representation means that UCEAP would do a lot more of the initial program advising.

UCEAP has been looking to expand communication channels with the campuses. Sometimes UCEAP would be offering information but it was not always getting where it needed to go on the campuses.

Looking ahead: the Visiting Scholars initiative will be developed with the campuses. UCEAP had a huge reciprocity imbalance. If it had visiting professors go then it would pay off the balance quickly. The Director had also talked about developing a visiting short-term scholar-in-residence program with some of the partners. She is looking to forward to developing it in a way that can serve campus needs.

UCEAP had a virtual study abroad fair and it was very successful – it may continue to do this even after in-person fairs are possible.

V. UCEAP Associate Dean's Report

Associate Dean Hsiu-Zu Ho

UCEAP has been interested in academic success outcomes of its participants and one of the indicators is graduation rates. Some of the stakeholders think that study abroad delays time to degree. UCEAP has been collaborating with IRAP on some studies with regard to graduation rates. There was some pilot work this winter; UCEAP made further requests and a few weeks ago IRAP included some further analysis. . This study on graduation uses Propensity Score Match (PSM) which is only starting to be applied in international studies. The study is comparing four, five and six-year graduation rates of UCEAP students with those that were not in UCEAP. These are entering freshmen in fall 2002-2012. Covariates included ethnicity, gender, residency, first-generation, socio-economic status, persistence to junior year, campus, cohort, high school GPA, AP units, and discipline. The four and six-year graduation rates are higher before Propensity Score Match. After Propensity Score Match, there was no significant difference for four years. There was a significant difference for five and six years; the UCEAP graduation rates were higher.

Campus Faculty Directors meet at least once a quarter and were interested in language study trends. The percentage of students who take language courses has decreased over the past five years. Ms. Ho showed language study rates broken down by campus. Data can also be filtered by different discipline choices. UCEAP has been successful in getting degree audit data from nine of the campuses. Data can be downloaded to an Excel spreadsheet. This allows students to search for courses that are pre-approved.

VI. Information Item

A. Program Closure

The summer program at HKUST is being cancelled. There were two hurdles that could not be cleared. There were two topics that were missing and they did not want to change their syllabus. The summer school will continue to run.

VII. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Chair

Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Vice Chair

The Senate Chair said that one of the big issues on the horizon is the issue of the budget and shortfalls because of the pandemic. The President has put forward a curtailment plan. It allows variability across the campuses. This is a concern because it seems to undermine the notion of being a system. It also seems to penalize faculty. There is a good note and that is something the President did when he interacted with the Senate last month. The curtailment was going to have an effect on the HAPC (highest average planned compensation) at retirement. The President went back to his group and arranged a fix that will affect faculty who would be retiring in the next three years. For those individuals, they are going to do a manual adjustment. The President really heard the Senate and did the right thing.

The Feasibility Study is the study following up on the discontinuation of the SAT and the ACT. Two committees were formed to work on this problem. It has now been passed on to the President and the Senate expects that he will give a report in January to the Regents.

The Regents have a Health Services Committee and it met this last week to discuss the vaccine delivery. Carrie Byington gave an update on the COVID situation. The first tier is going to be healthcare workers and then after that there will be other groups who receive the vaccine. K-12 instructors have been identified as essential workers and higher education is still unclear.

The Vice Chair said that – unlike most universities - UC had a 17 percent increase in freshman applications including African American and Latino applicants.

There are several key positions that have gone unfilled in OP human resources. OP has appointed a consulting group and it is looking at stakeholders and is finding how important HR is for the faculty in terms of facilitating retirement and health benefits. The Senate also turned to the Provost and the President and asked for Senate participation in the HR Transition Advisory Committee, and they are treating that seriously.

The Office of Audit and Compliance is keen for UC to be more in front of the curve in cyber security so there is going to be a symposium on this in late January to come to agreements and have researchers pay attention and get some buy-in on this. There will also be a safety symposium on policing. There will be a second meeting in March that will lead to a series of best practices to consider. Each campus will make those decisions for itself.

Academic Council discussed the fully online bachelor's degree proposal and there are strong feelings on each side. Points of discussion include talks about online, about residency requirements, and about campuses competing with each other. It is a very big discussion.

Minutes taken by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst
Attest: Sathya Guruswamy, Committee Chair

