



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Minutes of Meeting

Friday, December 19, 2025

I. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Action Taken: The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 8-0-0.

II. Program Reviews

A. 2024-25 Chile Review

Krislert Samphantharak (UCSD)

Professor Samphantharak commented that this is a very small exchange program. He remarked that the enrollment has been quite small and that the program tried to increase it by adding a spring semester. However, spring is typically less popular because of the UC quarter system. Reviewers believed the quality of the program is strong, but student feedback suggested issues. Specifically, students commented on a lack of adequate language preparation to undertake required interviews among locals. The primary problem is Spanish language preparation; two weeks in San Diego does not seem adequate. The review committee recommended more extensive training: that the program require a quarter or semester of Spanish prior to departure or that it add more Spanish training when the students are in Chile. The program said that it is not cost-effective to offer Spanish training once the students leave San Diego. The reviewers felt that the programming was rigorous enough for UC credit, but the Spanish is a problem.

Members had considerable questions about the language concerns and discussed them at length.

III. Chair's Report

Chair Jennifer Schultens

The Chair thanked members for their service and explained that much of UCIE's role is to help evaluate the quality of UCEAP programs. There are several 10-year reviews coming up; these will require committee member volunteers.

The degree of language preparation students should have prior to going abroad is a perennial question for UCIE. While the goal is to keep barriers to participation minimal, it is desirable that students have some familiarity with the host country language.

IV. Campus Reports

Members reported on campus issues related to international education and students.

V. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Ahmet Palazoglu, Academic Senate Chair

Susannah Scott, Academic Senate Vice Chair

Chair Palazoglu shared that there had been some good news recently. The Regents met at UCLA and discussed the DOJ matter. There was a positive outcome of a lawsuit. At Council, there was an extensive discussion on the PPFP, and the President emailed a statement regarding the continuation of the program and indicated that sustainability will be taken up in the coming months. This was quite positively received. Council also featured discussion of a statement on gender-affirming care. Council recommended and endorsed the P&T report and recommendations regarding changes to the APM regarding faculty discipline. He thanked UCAF members for working on that report. He noted that the Shiffrin/Soucek report was also endorsed. While that work was being done, the Senate Chair and Vice Chair met with the three Regents who were engaging in this effort and informed them about where the Senate was landing. After consultation, the Regents agreed with the creation of a systemwide reserve pool as opposed to a systemwide network. Chair Palazoglu observed that provisions for a reserve pool are already part of the University's bylaws and practices. He shared that the issue of timelines was very "thorny" for the Regents. The original proposal had some unclear language, particularly in regard to the attachments. The new language decouples the policy guidelines after the finding of a policy violation. The determination of when a policy violation occurs will go to an administrative/Senate workgroup which is yet to be formed.

At Regents there was an announcement about the new budget and a discussion of the Tuition Stability Plan. The Chair noted that there is some goodwill from Sacramento, but the state has budget issues that continue to be problematic. Board Chair Reilly announced a new award (the UC Regents' Innovation Award).

The Senate Chair shared some updates regarding the union bargaining process. He also told the group that he is a member of the search advisory committee for the VP of HR. The group has concluded interviews and has advanced a short list to EVP Rachel Nava; the pool was very strong. The Chair closed by updating the committee on the work of UCAD and UCAD Plus.

Vice Chair Scott discussed the Senate's investigation into barriers to online undergraduate degree programs and how to promote excellence in online instruction. A workgroup has come up with some draft recommendations in the areas of how to assess quality and ensure student interaction with faculty. The group is also looking into the role of UC Online. The group is also connected to the UCAD Plus working group and together they have been thinking about what online instruction might mean for international students. The mechanism that UCEAP uses for articulations is also something the group is looking at because this has been a matter of concern for some time.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

VI. Overview of UCEAP Research Tools for UCIE

Yeana Lam, Senior Research Analyst

Analyst Lam presented a slide deck demonstrating UCEAP Data Tools and Resources.

Members had some questions. The Chair asked about the possibility of guaranteed housing for students overseas. UCEAP will report back on that at the next meeting.

VII. UCEAP Director's Report

Dan Waite, UCEAP Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director

The Executive Director thanked members for their service. He recently returned from a visit to Scotland and Ireland; he shared feedback from students. He then presented a slide deck of UCEAP milestones, including the forecast that UCEAP enrollment will exceed 6,000 students this year. UCEAP has just completed significant self-study, and he will be continuing to go on campus visits through February. He noted that many divisions are short-staffed with regard in international education. Much of the self-study involved discussion of UCEAP's mission, vision, values, and identity. He hopes to report back with information in the spring. They are considering recommendations from external consultants; they mentioned that success can be a liability if UCEAP does not adapt and change as things evolve. The consultants recommended aspects to streamline but also emphasized the need for a Chief Academic Officer and a strategic enrollment unit. An important task ahead will be an effective audit of UCEAP programming; this will come to UCIE for feedback. The program is also looking at undergraduate learning outcomes and how they align with systemwide learning outcomes.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

VIII. UCEAP Associate Deans' Reports

Peter Graham, UCEAP Associate Dean

David Lopez-Carr, UCEAP Associate Dean

Associate Dean Graham discussed ways in which UCEAP international programming differs from campus-based programs. UCEAP does not do faculty-led programs. However, it does participate in reciprocity programs and construct programs. He provided updates on UCEAP initiatives, including summer physics programs, academic integration efforts, and language study opportunities.

Associate Dean Lopez-Carr announced that a Berkeley student was a finalist for the Forum on Education Abroad's Award for Academic Achievement Abroad. The winners will be announced in February.

<https://www.forumea.org/award-for-academic-achievement-abroad.html>

UCEAP also won the 2025 Global Industry Internship Partner Award. Associate Dean Lopez-Carr voiced appreciation for Provost Newman's strong support and noted that UCEAP is looking into expanding its internship and leadership opportunities.

IX. Program Development

Sarah Abraham, UCEAP Director of Academic Development

A. For First UCIE Review: New Program Proposals: Monash University

Director Abraham remarked that this is technically a re-opening, but the partnership has been inactive for some time. The program has grown and has a very bold internationalization plan. They may offer a research or field option in the future. UCEAP would like to have the exchange open for sophomores, juniors, and seniors, but the dates do not align perfectly with all of the UC calendars. The STEM openings will be very appealing, and the university has already developed packages of programs for incoming students. Housing is not guaranteed, but if students put an application in by deadline, they are very likely to get housing. She closed by discussing the high cost of visas in Australia, but UCEAP is still seeing tremendous demand.

B. For Second UCIE Review: New Program Proposals: Paris Dauphine University (PSL)

Director Abraham noted that this is the second presentation for this program and that there were no substantial questions from the last meeting. This is a new partner in Paris with robust English-language course offerings in addition to significant French instruction. Housing is guaranteed.

X. UCEAP Information Items

Sarah Abraham, UCEAP Director of Academic Development

A. Program Changes

Director Abraham covered a new collaboration with Columbia University to address sustainability program challenges.

XI. Systemwide Information and Items Under Systemwide Review

- Senate Chair Palazoglu's Remarks to the Board of Regents
- Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Education Loan Practices

XII. New Business

Professor Sharma raised the question of international students and non-resident tuition. Analyst Harms will work to have a UCOP expert visit the next meeting to discuss this topic.

XIII. Executive Session

A. Action Taken: *The 2024-25 Chile Review Report was approved 11-0-0.*

B. Action Taken: *The PSL Proposal was approved 11-0-0.*

The committee adjourned at 1:51 p.m.