



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Minutes of Meeting

Friday, December 20, 2024

In Attendance: Michelle Leslie (Chair), Jennifer Schultens (Vice Chair), Baoxia Mi (UCB), John Bolander (UCD), Zuzana Bic (UCI), Marco Giovannini (UCLA), Greg Wright (UCM), Michele Salzman (UCR), Krislert Samphantharak (UCSD), Alan Shindel (UCSF), Camilo Gómez-Rivas (UCSC), Ahmet Palazoglu, Sarah Abraham, Peter Graham, David Lopez-Carr, Vivian-Lee Nyitray, Julie Pollard, Mohit Saraswat (student), Christie Vong (student), and Fredye Harms (analyst)

I. Approval of Agenda

Action Taken: Approve the agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 7-0-0.

II. Chair's Report

Chair Michelle Leslie

Chair Leslie reported that the search committee for the new AVP and Executive Director for UCEAP has been fully formed and has met. The group has extended the deadline for applications slightly; the position is still open. The group will meet again towards the end of January.

III. Campus Reports

Members reported on items related to international education from their divisions.

IV. UCEAP Director's Report

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

AVP Nyitray observed that the potential changes with the new administration are on the minds of many, but the most immediate impact will be on DACA students. UCEAP has advised DACA students abroad to return before the administration changes and have told those who were planning on going abroad to reconsider their plans. Relatedly, if the Muslim ban is reinstated, it will be problematic for students who are living abroad but have passports from the banned list. She reported that UCEAP is alert to the potential problems and in seeing what it needs to do.

Isreal is an ongoing concern. UCEAP continues to field questions about the resumption of programing. Once a program is cancelled for security reasons, it can only be reinstated though an exhaustive process. UCEAP cannot do this independently; it would need to be authorized and paid for by UCOP. Furthermore, the existing agreements are set to expire next

year, and new agreements would need to be negotiated. Risk Services is putting that assessment into their budget for next year.

The war in Ukraine has also impacted UCEAP, and the Russian program has been cancelled. The Associate Deans have been meeting with Russian language faculty across the system, and are exploring starting programs with the American Councils, most likely in Kazakhstan. However, these programs are expensive. February will be the 50th anniversary of programming in Russia. UCEAP will be holding an anniversary event in Los Angeles and will be talking with attendees about potential scholarship needs.

AVP Nyitray reported that there has been a significant increase in student mental health needs and concerns. These will be discussed by Director Pollard later in the day.

Close to 5,800 students are outbound with UCEAP and a slightly more than 1500 students are inbound, which is almost back to pre-pandemic numbers. The Global Start Program is underway and AVP Nyitray and Provost Newman paid visits to the site, met with students, and had a very positive experience. The program is in a small location in Sicily, which was by design. It was felt that students would not be as distracted and could concentrate on study skills and time management in a less-busy location. Global Start will have a three-year pilot and then it will be reviewed by UCIE. Davis is coming online next year and UCSC is interested in joining in the near future.

UCEAP staff have made a few campus visits and will continue with them in January, visiting UCR and UCSC, and hopefully visiting Merced.

Finally, the AVP shared that UCEAP is moving at USCB. At a future meeting, she will share the architectural plans with UCIE.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

V. Associate Deans' Reports

Peter Graham, UCEAP Associate Dean

David Lopez-Carr, UCEAP Associate Dean

Associate Dean Lopez-Carr said that he and Associate Dean Graham had visited some of the campuses this fall, and have more visits planned for winter. They met with international studies and study abroad administrators and staff to find out where the demands are for students and where UCEAP can offer opportunities. One focus had been identifying impacted classes, particularly in STEM. If a UCEAP opportunity does not currently exist, such information-gathering can help with discussing potential program development. The Associate Deans also visit UCEAP's AI grantees to glean best practices and lessons learned. The Associate Deans are looking to develop a short presentation for campus deans. They also meet with the campus registrars to make sure the AI database is current. The Associate Deans are reaching out to the campuses to gauge interest in Russian language programming, possibly for summer courses.

Associate Dean Graham encouraged members to ask questions and reach out to UCEAP if they need help. He said that the Associate Deans are available to meet with campus CIEs. When they visit a campus, they focus on trying to make curricular integration work between the campus and all of the programs that UCEAP has abroad. The goal is to make it easier for students and eliminate possible obstacles. At this time, the Associate Deans are trying to “move the needle” on summer STEM. He noted that most students study abroad as juniors and seniors, but this is difficult for STEM students. UCEAP is looking at Data Science as a possibility. Associate Dean Graham noted that when study abroad participation goes up, first-generation student participation also goes up.

VI. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Ahmet Palazoglu, Academic Senate Vice Chair

Senate Chair Cheung was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

Vice Chair Palazoglu informed the group that the University budget was approved by the Regents. Part of it was a 9.9 percent non-resident tuition increase for the incoming cohort. This was debated very vigorously, with Regents voicing concerns about impacting the diversity of students and international student enrollment. Twenty percent of those fees will take the form of return-to-aid, and UCOP will be monitoring diversity. The Regents also approved \$1.36B in capital projects and a 3.7 percent range adjustment to the faculty salary schedules. UCRP is increasing by the scheduled 0.5 percent which will shorten the time until full funding to 17 years. The Regents approved the senate-recommended changes to the University’s Diversity Statement that were made to incorporate disabled members of the community. A few Regents were very dissatisfied that no one had undergone discipline at UCLA in response to the campus demonstrations; they think this is the fault of the Senate. The January Board meeting will feature an explanation of the discipline process. Provost Newman and Senate Chair Cheung will be joined by the UCLA Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and others to do presentation and address questions. There may be an interest in revisiting the P&T process.

Assembly met this past week and unanimously approved the UC quality statement. The Ethnic Studies requirement was vigorously debated and was postponed to the April meeting. A special Assembly meeting is planned in January to address three issues: the President’s information security plan, the rise in healthcare premiums, and the variance between faculty and staff compensation. There is now a workgroup that consists of the Senate Chair and Vice Chair, five other Senate members, and some administrators to look at this matter and run some simulations.

Council featured discussion about a proposed revision to SR 479 (CalGETC) to prioritize major preparation over general education for students transferring with the ADT. ACSCOTI proposed two revisions, one of which was debated and postponed. Another regulation that was considered was SR 627, which was regarding awarding degrees posthumously. That was debated, but no action was taken; it was sent back to UCEP And CCGA for revision. An announcement was made about the MOP funds, which had been depleted ahead of schedule this year due to the high national interest rates for mortgages. In addition, the higher market rates prevented the MOP program from selling its loans. However, CFO

Brostrom announced that an additional \$200M would be delivered to the campuses in early 2025 to address the shortfall. Separately, the UAW ratified the contract extension to Jan 2026. This is important because it gives the University more time to prepare for the next round of negotiations and it also removes the possibility of strike action at the end of spring quarter.

The Senate Vice Chair announced that the Davis division held a confidence vote for President Drake. The ballot specified a number of grievances. Voting has not yet been certified and announced. Two memorials are coming from UCSF to extend Senate membership to adjunct and health sciences in the clinical series. The next step is for the other nine campuses to take up this matter, and guidance is being sent by the by the Academic Senate leadership to the divisions to start that process.

He added that this is a busy year for leadership searches. The search for a new University president is underway and the 13-member advisory committee has been meeting in the last few months with the goal of finding an acceptable candidate by March/April. Two chancellor searches are being undertaken. The Santa Barbara chancellor search should finalize between March and May, and the Riverside search committee will have its first meeting in January.

Vice Chair Palazoglu gave some updates on the many workgroups currently operating. The systemwide APC calendar workgroup has 11 Senate members and 11 administrators as well as student representatives. The group has met three times and has modified the charge a bit to be more reflective of the member perspective. There is also a subgroup looking at the cost of a systemwide transition to the semester system. A former UCPB chair is part of that group. The group has met with UCDC staff to see if any of the proposed calendar features would benefit or hurt them. In January, the group will meet with representatives from other universities that have undergone quarter-to-semester conversions to learn about the impact on their students and staff. There is a webpage for information and a portal for feedback. The group intends to finalize its product around March to send out for 90-day systemwide review. However, if the workgroup feels that the work is not done by that time, its charge will be extended to the end of the academic year with the review in the fall.

Vice Chair Palazoglu remarked that the workgroup on APM 015 and 016 has completed phase one of its work. The report was delivered to the Provost and to President Drake. The main conclusion is that the language of 015 and 016 does not need to be changed and perhaps guidelines for them can be developed similar to SVSH guidelines. The workgroup will reconvene to discuss simultaneous merit and disciplinary actions. The last workgroup he discussed is studying total remuneration and benefits. It is being administered by systemwide HR.

Members had a few questions for the Vice Chair.

/II. Overview: UCEAP International Health, Safety, and Crisis Management

Julie Pollard, Director of International Health, Safety, and Crisis Management

Director Pollard shared a PowerPoint on [UCEAP International Health, Safety, and Crisis Management](#). She introduced the composition of her team and gave an overview of the type of work her office does. She remarked that her office is in regular contact with the campuses to assess and report on risk and health data. Her office also provides a 24-hour emergency line for students overseas as well as up to 20 free mental health service appointments.

Members discussed the program with Director Pollard.

III. Program Development

Sarah Abraham, UCEAP Director of Academic Development

A. University of Technology Sydney

Director Abraham noted that this is a new exchange program. There is considerable interest in Australia (particularly Sydney), however the program is limited by constraints set by reciprocity. Some UC campuses do not have the same name recognition as others and so there is uneven demand between the campuses. University of Technology Sydney (UTS) is familiar with UC and is in a position to advise its students to consider campuses besides UCLA and UCB. The program will be offered to sophomores and graduate students. The GPA is lower than existing programs in Australia, which will increase access. UTS is a fairly new, large public university, with about 45k students, about half of whom are international. It is a technical university with small classrooms and a heavy emphasis on collaborative work. It has three campuses: two are close together and one is a little further away but still accessible through public transportation. Since it is a technical university, it will not have the traditional social science and humanities courses, but those can be acquired at UC. However, UTS offers programming that is not available at UC such as start-up incubators for business-minded students.

Director Abraham noted that not knowing the credit they are going to get is one of the biggest concerns of students. UCEAP is trying to work on study abroad policy at each department so that they can be more lenient. In addition, there is a very expensive visa now associated with Australia that students would have to pay out of pocket up front (it would be reimbursed later). This is another challenge.

IX. UCEAP Information Items

Sarah Abraham, UCEAP Director of Academic Development

A. Program Changes: Lyon and Bordeaux

Director Abraham explained that UCEAP had an intensive language program in Bordeaux that proceeded the fall and the spring semesters; it is being discontinued. There is now a reasonable amount of course offerings in English and there are French courses that allow students with fewer than two years of French to get by. UCEAP also formerly offered a French methodology course in Bordeaux, but it has had difficulty finding instructors to teach the course, so it will no longer be offered as of the fall. Relatedly, the University of Lyon is now offering a French methodology course, so there is no reason for UCEAP to hire an instructor. However, Lyon does not have a wide variety of English courses, and they still do not allow

students with fewer than two years of university-level French to take courses, so UCEAP is still offering the intensive language program. These changes lower the cost for students.

X. Systemwide Information and Items Under Systemwide Review

- A. Senate Chair Cheung's Remarks to the Board of Regents
- B. Proposed Presidential Policy on the Use of Animals in Research, Teaching, and Testing
The committee chose not to opine on this proposed policy.

XI. New Business

There was no new business.

XII. Executive Session

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

The committee adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst
Attest: Michelle Leslie, Committee Chair