

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON PREPARATORY EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

During the 2024-2025 Academic Year, the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) held four videoconferences, and UCOPE's English for Multilingual Students Advisory Group (EMS AG) and the Entry Level Writing Requirement Coordinating Council (ECC) each met once in person. All groups considered matters in accordance with their duties as set forth in Senate Bylaw 192 (and relevant task force charges), which states that UCOPE shall advise the President on matters relating to preparatory and remedial education (including the language needs of students from diverse linguistic backgrounds); monitor and conduct periodic reviews and evaluations of preparatory and remedial education; supervise the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR); monitor the development and use of placement examinations in mathematics; and work with the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools to communicate these standards to all high schools and colleges in California.

A summary of the committee's activities and accomplishments follows below:

SENATE BYLAW 192

Given the rescission of the Analytical Writing Placement Examination (AWPE), the UCOPE bylaw must be amended to conform. Some suggested that UCOPE be sunsetted and its oversight duties be assigned to other standing committees. The sunset proposal went through systemwide review but was ultimately rejected as the core duties regarding academic English preparation and mathematics preparation were deemed important enough to require expert faculty leadership. UCOPE will consider both conforming and other amendments to SBL 192 next year.

ENGLISH FOR MULTULINGUAL STUDENTS ADVISORY GROUP

The English for Multilingual Students Advisory Group (EMS AG) works to ensure that mulitlingual students follow appropriate course sequences in academic English to ensure their ultimate success at UC. In addition to the standard campus reports, EMS AG discussed issues related to budget, the ongoing impacts of the graduate student researchers'/instructors' change in employment status, and changes to its charge.

ENTRY LEVEL WRITING REQUIREMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL

The ELWR Coordinating Council (ECC) is a body of Writing Studies experts to provide expert oversight of and support to the state-mandated ELWR, ELWR-satisfying courses, and ELWR placement practices. The ECC oversees regular assessment of campus placement models and curricula and supports ELWR by advocating in favor of campuses receiving the resources that they need to ensure that ELWR placement mechanisms remain reliable and valid instruments of equity. In this first year of ECC operation, standardized summaries of each campus's practices were developed and best practices are being derived.

Next year, three campuses will submit in-depth reports, with three more campuses each of the next two years.

Upon the recommendation of ECC, UCOPE requested the administration to update its website indicating UC's current policy regarding ELWR fulfillment via SAT score submission.

OTHER ISSUES AND ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

In response to requests for formal comment from the Academic Council, UCOPE issued views on the following:

Proposed Senate Regulation 479 – the California General Education Transfer Curriculum

UCOPE REPRESENTATION

UCOPE Chair Chen represented the committee at meetings of the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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