

Minutes of Meeting
January 26, 2007
UCOP Room 10325
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

I. Consultation with Academic Senate Leadership

John Oakley, Chair

Mária Bertero-Barceló, Executive Director

Director Bertero-Barceló provided members with an overview of Senate operations and the responsibilities of committee members and the Senate leadership. She also outlined the Committee Analyst's responsibilities. Upcoming issues before the Senate are providing greater recognition for Senate service. Director Bertero-Barceló also reminded members of the 21-day submission deadline for travel reimbursement documents.

Chair Oakley lauded the members on their dedication of time and energy to Senate work, stressing their role as liaisons between the systemwide office and divisions. He also discussed the importance of providing greater recognition for Senate service.

DISCUSSION: Members asked for greater detail of the chancellorial search process. Chair Oakley related his experience on search committees of that nature.

II. Chair's Announcements and Introductions

John Eggers, UCOPE Chair

The Chair and the members introduced themselves and their fields of expertise.

Chair Eggers also outlined his responsibilities and role in the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS). Among the issues that body is currently discussing are articulation and transfer credit, standardized course numbering, and education legislation coming from the state legislature.

Chair Eggers provided an overview of the Senate Regulation 636 amendment proposal, which is to be discussed in detail in agenda item V.

III. Analytical Writing Placement Examination (AWPE): Review and Selection of Essay Prompts

George Gadda, UCLA Writing Program

**Note: Due to the confidential nature of this item, no notes were taken.

ACTION: The committee selected its first and second choices to serve as the essay prompt for the AWPE to be administered this spring.

IV. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of the April 21, 2006 meeting

ACTION: The Consent Calendar was approved as amended.

V. Senate Regulation 636

John Eggers, UCOPE Chair

Susan Wilbur, Director of Undergraduate Admissions

Jeanne Hargrove, Coordinator of High School Articulation and AWPE

- Passing Test Scores
 1. AP

ISSUE: The committee is considering whether to raise the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) exemption/passing score on AP tests from 3 to 4.

DISCUSSION: Members inquired as to how many students got a 3 on AP as their way to satisfying the ELWR. Coordinator Hargrove observed that the College Board is currently undertaking an initiative to ensure greater equity in AP courses, regardless of where and by whom they are taught.

ACTION: Director Wilbur will gather data regarding the impact of AP scores vis-à-vis satisfying the AWPE and ELWR for review by UCOPE at its April meeting.

2. CSU EAP

ISSUE: Director Wilbur distributed documents relating to the Cal States' Early Assessment Program (EAP), an expanded California high school standardized test administered to high school juniors to indicate their readiness for college-level English courses, or whether students should enroll in senior-year remediation courses. (See Distribution 2.) The question Director Wilbur presents to UCOPE is whether UC should join CSU in developing and propounding the EAP.

DISCUSSION: Members queried whether the EAP could become another means of test-exemption from the ELWR. Director Wilbur indicated that such was one possibility, depending on UC's input in test creation and scoring. Members would like to see more information on the scoring of the EAP, its essay component, and the demographics of test takers, since the EAP is voluntary.

ACTION: Director Wilbur will gather additional data on the EAP for presentation and discussion with UCOPE at the committee's April meeting.

- Amending the Regulation
 1. Writing Class Size

ACTION: Members agreed that the section of the re-written regulation limiting ELWR class-size to 20 students was acceptable.

2. Removal of Test Names

ACTION: Members agreed that the section of the re-written regulation removing the names of specific tests was adequate.

3. Simplifying the Language

DISCUSSION: Members indicated their preference for the extant language indicating a "program of study" rather than the limiting "course" to satisfy the ELWR. Director Wilbur indicated her preference for the current language of original subsection G as it provided clearer answers to questions of the sequence of transfer credit validity. Members also indicated their preference for original subsection E as maintaining the old language may avoid unnecessary pitfalls during systemwide review. Members also raised questions as to the process and validity of "contracting out" ELWR classes. Finally, members were concerned that language allowing a grade of "C" as passing might

be confusing as in some departments on some campuses, a grade of “C-” was considered a passing grade.

ACTION: The impugned sections of the draft amendment for Senate Regulation 636 will be revised according to the committee’s preferences.

ACTION: Discussion surrounding the “contracting out” of ELWR classes will be resumed at the committee’s April meeting.

ACTION: The revised amendment will be circulated via email for committee endorsement prior to being shared with UCEP for its co-sponsorship.

VI. Consultation with the Office of the President

Susan Wilbur, Director of Undergraduate Admission

Jeanne Hargrove, Coordinator of High School Articulation and AWPE

ISSUE: Director Wilbur outlined a problem that emerged following the reconstruction of the SAT: While it has been UC’s longstanding policy to take the highest total score a student achieves during a single sitting of the exam for eligibility for UC admission, the question arises as to whether UC should accept a passing score in the SAT writing component for exemption of the ELWR, even though it was attained during a lower-total score sitting of the exam (see Distribution 3). Can UC use one sitting for eligibility satisfaction and another for ELWR exemption?

ACTION: The committee recommended unanimously that the highest score attained for exemption from the ELWR should be used, regardless of during which sitting the student attained that score.

Issue: Coordinator Hargrove provided an overview of the AWPE administered last spring (see Distributions 4 and 5).

Discussion: Members discussed the apparent emergence of the problem of chronic ELWR no-passers, even among those who have taken ELWR courses.

VII. Update on UCOPE ESL Advisory Committee

Jan Frodesen, UCOPE Vice Chair and ESL Advisory Committee Chair

Vice Chair Frodesen provided an overview of the ESL Advisory Committee’s membership and charge. She also highlighted some of the committee’s past work. Among the topics the advisory committee will address this year are the placement of ESL students, the placement of transfer students, and the role of the TOEFL at UC as each campus employs different standards. Further, the advisory committee will examine tutorial services for multi-lingual students and fluency concerns surrounding transfer students and international graduate students.

ACTION: Director Wilbur will prepare data regarding the TOEFL scores and placement of international graduate students enrolled at UC for consideration by the advisory committee at its March meeting.

VIII. Update on Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning Entry Requirement

John Eggers, UCOPE Chair

ISSUE: The idea of a mathematics/quantitative reasoning entry requirement for new UC students has been on the table for some time. Should the committee pursue this issue, or consider it in a new light?

DISCUSSION: While members agreed that adequate preparation in mathematics is a legitimate concern, it was felt that the creation of a new entry requirement was the wrong avenue at present to seek redress on this issue. Members observed that the CSU EAP has a math component and wondered if action through that mechanism might be a successful manner of highlighting specific issues to be resolved. UCR Representative Shapiro indicated that her campus had recently initiated a math entry test.

ACTION: Director Wilbur will prepare data covering the math portion of the EAP for discussion by the committee at its next meeting.

ACTION: UCR Representative Shapiro will submit to the committee for its evaluation data on her campus's math entry test when it becomes available.

IX. Systemwide Senate Review Items

- Draft Proposal on the Relationships Between (Pharmaceutical) Vendors and Clinicians
- Proposed Amendments to Senate Regulation (SR) 694 and Proposed New Senate Regulation (SR) 695

ACTION: The committee agreed by unanimous consent not to opine on either item presently before the committee.

X. Member Planning and New Business

None.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Distributions:

1. Revised Agenda and Campus Feedback re SR 636 Amendment Proposal
2. EAP
3. EAP
4. UC Universitywide AWPE Statistical Summary Report, May 2006
Administration
5. UC Universitywide AWPE Individual Campus Statistical Summary, May 2006
Administration

Attest: John Eggers, UCOPE Chair

Prepared by: Kenneth Feer, Committee Analyst