

**Minutes of Meeting**

**April 20, 2007**

**I. Minutes of the January 26, 2007, meeting**

**ACTION:** The minutes of the January 26, 2007, meeting were approved as amended.

**II. Chair's Announcements**

*John Eggers, UCOPE Chair*

Chair Eggers updated the committee on the progress of the proposed amendment to Senate Regulation (SR) 636, which is pending before the Academic Council prior to being distributed for systemwide review. The proposed amendment is expected to be discussed by the Council at its May meeting.

**ACTION:** Analyst Feer will re-send the proposed amendment and talking points to committee members to assist them in lobbying their divisional chairs to support the measure.

**III. Norming of Exams**

*George Gadda, UCLA Writing Program*

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

**ACTION:** The sample exams from the committee-approved test prompt were normed to be used as guidelines for grading the upcoming administration of the Analytical Writing Placement Examination (AWPE).

**IV. Consultation with the Office of the President**

*Jeanne Hargrove, AWPE and High School Articulation Coordinator*

*Susan Wilbur, Director of Undergraduate Admissions*

- **AP and AWPE**

**ISSUE:** Director Wilbur presented to the committee a brief data analysis of the impact of removing a score of 3 on the AP English test as an acceptable means of satisfying the University's Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) in terms of how many additional AWPEs would need to be administered (see Distribution 1).

**DISCUSSION:** Members queried whether the data discerned between junior versus senior year test takers; Director Wilbur indicated that it did not. Members also observed that many students take the AP exam in May, the same time-frame as the AWPE, so the data do not indicate the number of students who may take the AWPE unnecessarily. The committee also discussed whether eliminating a score of 3 on the AP English test would disincentivize students from applying to/enrolling at UC. Members asked as to the possibility of tracking students' performances in upper-level writing classes who passed the ELWR via an AP 3, and how potentially increasing the number of students who need to complete an ELWR course after enrollment at UC dovetails with the committee's current effort to limit class-size in those classes. Both UCLA and UCSC are engaged in

efforts to track students' performance, though the methodology is informal. Members noted that when viewed together, the Pearson's data reviewing the AWPE and Director Wilbur's data leave significant room for interpretation. The committee agreed that at present, no specific action was required, but it will continue to monitor the situation.

- CSU EAP re AWPE and Math Assessment

**ISSUE:** Director Wilbur presented a short overview of the CSU EAP and noted that it was receiving positive reviews. The committee seeks to learn whether the CSU EAP could be another acceptable manner for students to place out of UC requirements.

**DISCUSSION:** Director Wilbur noted that data is still being compiled and that the exam is still relatively new. Members observed that data need not necessarily be attributed on a student-by-student basis, but that general correlative data vis-à-vis AP and SAT scores would suffice for initial discussions.

**ACTION:** UCR Representative Theda Shapiro will share with the committee data covering her campus's Math Advisory Exam when it becomes available.

**ACTION:** Director Wilbur will continue to compile data for presentation to the committee when it becomes available.

- AWPE 2007

**ISSUE:** Coordinator Hargrove presented an overview of the upcoming administration of the AWPE. She noted that there is a higher number of admits being considered for AWPE because of a correspondingly higher number of overall admits this year. Concerns for the test's administration include securing a sufficient number of readers/graders and the carrying capacity of testing centers.

**DISCUSSION:** Members discussed the exploration of alternative methods of AWPE administration, such as keyboard versus hand-written administration. One concern over changing the format is the potentially disparate impact on economically disadvantaged students.

- ELWR 2005

Members received a preliminary copy of a summary report detailing how recent entrants satisfied the ELWR (see Distribution 3). A final version will be available on-line soon.

## **V. ELWR Course Conduction**

**ISSUE:** The committee is investigating how ELWR courses are conducted at different UC campuses, specifically those that contract with local community colleges for the teaching thereof.

**DISCUSSION:** Chair Eggers noted that his campus, San Diego, is one of the campuses that "outsource" ELWR instruction and that the program is completing the third year of its trial. Consensus at San Diego is that the upcoming review of the practice should focus on ESL instruction and ESL students' needs.

**ACTION:** UCSD Representative Melissa Famulari and UCOPE Vice Chair Jan Frodesen, also out-going ESL Advisory Committee Chair, will continue discussion of this matter.

## **VI. ESL Advisory Committee Update**

*Jan Frodesen, UCOPE Vice Chair and ESL Advisory Committee Chair*

ESL Advisory Committee Chair Frodesen provided an overview of the group's roles and responsibilities as well as of the student groups served.

- Transfer Student Report  
**ISSUE:** UCLA's transfer student placement exam underscores the advisory committee's conclusion that GPAs are not indicative of success with academic English at UC. The success of CCC transfer students is of special concern.  
**DISCUSSION:** Some members wondered whether placement exams for transfer students would violate IGETC agreements. Others posited that establishing an additional requirement, while not negating transfer credit, could be acceptable. Another concern is that students are shy about admitting need, but given the dubious accuracy of relying on GPAs, naming an alternate method of identifying students in need of additional work is difficult. It was suggested that each campus develop a plan to 1) identify transfer students in need of English language support and 2) bring those students up to competency, but concerns of resource support were also raised. Members agreed that this problem will most likely only grow, given demographic trends in the state.  
**ACTION:** Professor Frodesen will revise the advisory committee's recommendations for endorsement by UCOPE.  
**ACTION:** Analyst Feer will circulate a revised version of the document for comment by UCOPE once it is completed.
- Academic English Proficiency Standards for Incoming International Students  
**ISSUE:** For degree-seeking international students, the advisory committee has concerns over the minimum TOEFL scores acceptable for admission (see Distribution 4).  
**ACTION:** Each member will investigate how/why the minimum scores were selected at his/her campus.
- UC Education Abroad Program Reciprocal Students' ESL Needs  
**ISSUE:** The advisory committee is concerned that UCEAP reciprocal students' ESL needs are not being adequately addressed by the University. This concern is compounded by the difficulty involved in parsing TOEFL scores, student self-selection for additional English work, enrollment timing, and placement below UC's ESL capacity to redress.  
**ACTION:** UCOPE will share the advisory committee's report with the University Committee on International Education (UCIE) and, through them, UCEAP.
- Follow-up on ICAS ESL Task Force Report: ESL Tutorial Support at UC

Professor Frodesen provided a summary of the report and its main points: the range of tutorial support available, tutors' experience and training, etc.

**VII. Amending SR 761**

*John Eggers, UCOPE Chair*

**ISSUE:** The retention of Legislative Ruling (LR) 2.85 complicates campus interpretation and application of SRs 636 and 761 by implying that ELWR-satisfying courses are ineligible for baccalaureate credit.

**DISCUSSION:** Professor Gadda contended that the 1996 amendment to SR 761, which redefined remedial work in English (SR 761.B), made LR 2.85 obsolete. Members concurred, asserting that the placement of reference to LR 2.85 in SR 761.A, the mathematics subsection, was indicative of error.

**ACTION:** Analyst Feer will draft correspondence to the Academic Council asking that reference to LR 2.85 be removed from the relevant SRs due to human error.

**ACTION:** Analyst Feer will contact the executive director to correct SR 761, which currently has division signs rather than long double-dashes.

**VIII. Systemwide Review Items**

- Open Access Policy

**ACTION:** The committee elected not to opine on this item.

**IX. New Business and Planning**

*Members*

None.

Adjournment: 3:30 p.m.

Distributions:

1. Increase in Number Required to Take AWPE (Subject A) as the Result of Restriction or Elimination of AP Exam Exemptions
2. Proposed Amendment of SR 761 (draft)
3. University of California Report on Entry Level Writing Requirement Fall 2005
4. English Language Proficiency Requirement (for admission, by campus)

Attest: John Eggers, Chair

Prepared by: Kenneth Feer, Analyst