

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

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*Chair of the Assembly and the Academic Council
Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200*

January 14, 2009

**JUTTA HECKHAUSEN
CHAIR, IRVINE DIVISION**

Re: Request for Variances to SR 780 and SR810A

Dear Jutta:

At the Academic Assembly meeting of December 10, 2008, the Assembly considered two requests for variances to Senate regulations from the Irvine Division. The Academic Assembly unanimously voted to approve the variance to SR810A/Irvine Division Regulation A385 Normal Progress Requirement. This variance allows UCI students to have the units and grade points for courses taken through Access UCI: Concurrent Enrollment transferred to their record when they have been admitted or readmitted to regular student status. This change has been made to the Senate Regulations.

As you know, the Assembly did not approve the variance to SR780/Irvine Division Regulation A365, which would have allowed grade changes from Pass/No Pass to a letter grade in exceptional situations. The Assembly's primary objection to the variance was that it violates the fundamental principle that grade assignment is solely within the purview of the course instructor, and that grades should not be subject to change by an administrator for any reason other than clerical or procedural error. Suggestions were offered to accommodate exceptional circumstances, such as having the instructor provide a letter to outside institutions indicating the student's performance in the course.

Thank you for bringing these requests before the Assembly. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the Assembly's rulings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Croughan".

Mary Croughan, Chair
Academic Council

Copy: UCI EVC and Provost Gottfredson
Academic Council
Martha Winnacker, Senate Director