July 29, 2022

YVETTE GULLATT, VICE PRESIDENT
GRADUATE, UNDERGRADUATE AND EQUITY AFFAIRS

Re: Recommendations to the UC Online Advisory Council for Data Collection and Reporting

Dear Yvette:

At its July 27 meeting, the Academic Council endorsed the attached letter from the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) to the UC Online Advisory Council. The letter provides several recommendations regarding more robust reporting and analysis of data on student enrollment in cross-campus UC Online courses, including the demographics of enrolled students and their completion of courses. We request your assistance in working with the Advisory Council and UCEP to implement the recommendations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Horwitz, Chair
Academic Council

Cc: Academic Council
    UC Online Program Director Osmundson
    Campus Senate Directors
    Executive Director Lin

Encl.
June 17, 2022

ROBERT HORWITZ, CHAIR
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

RE: Recommendations to the UC Online Advisory Council for Data Collection and Reporting

Dear Robert,

During UCEP’s May and June meetings, the committee discussed concerns related to UC Online’s data collection and reporting. We would urge that the UC Online Advisory Council devise a concrete plan for collecting and reporting data on a consistent basis. These recommendations stem from a presentation by UC Online Program Director Osmundson to UCEP on April 4th which raised questions about the analysis and reporting of data on enrollment in and completion of cross-campus courses.

The committee would like to offer the following recommendations to UC Online and the Advisory Council:

1) The program should consult with Institutional Research and Academic Planning at the Office of the President regarding the data collected and analyzed by that unit which could be made available to UC Online.

2) Director Osmundson reported that 500k students have enrolled in courses funded by the program. It is important to clarify if these are duplicated or unduplicated enrollments.

3) UCEP found the information about the number of students who enrolled, the number who were approved, and the number of students who ultimately completed the cross-campus courses to be unclear. The presentation of this data should be straightforward to ensure it will be interpreted correctly.

4) It would be valuable for UC Online to report data on the demographics of students taking its courses. UCEP understands that the program’s agreement with the campus registrars excludes demographic information. However, the committee believes it is important for the University to have the ability to assess learning outcomes for transfer, first generation, underrepresented or otherwise vulnerable students who participate in UC Online courses.

5) It is not clear why UC Online does not have completion data for courses not available for cross-campus enrollment.

6) The Advisory Council should develop a comprehensive list of data that should be collected along with a schedule for receiving reports and sharing them with UCEP. In addition to enrollment and completion data, UC Online should report the reasons registrars/advisors did not approve enrollments and reasons students dropped courses.

7) UC Online and the Advisory Council should determine if the systemwide Academic Senate, and UCEP in particular, can facilitate attaining any critical data from the campuses.

The committee asks that these recommendations be forwarded to the Provost’s Office and to Graduate, Undergraduate, and Equity Affairs. UCEP appreciates the opportunity to comment on this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.
Sincerely,

Mary Lynch, Chair
UCEP