



*Susan Cochran*  
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*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate  
Faculty Representative to the Regents  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
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August 7, 2023

**BARBARA KNOWLTON, CHAIR  
BOARD OF ADMISSIONS AND RELATIONS WITH SCHOOLS**

**Re: Academic Council Statement to BOARS**

Dear Barbara:

On behalf of the Academic Council, I am pleased to transmit the following statement to the full Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS):

Academic Council wishes to communicate our appreciation to the members of BOARS for the work they have done to navigate to an approach to the mathematics (area C) requirement for UC admissions that is fair, equitable, and supportive of all California high school students. We recognize that the work BOARS undertakes is highly complex, requiring subject matter expertise about both secondary education in the state and the standards imposed by colleges/schools and majors on the UC campuses, as well as collaboration with partners and stakeholders. We lament the recent tensions that have arisen around this important issue, and we trust that all parties will collaborate to clarify the path forward.

Council affirms the authority of BOARS to set academic conditions for admissions, as delegated by the Regents via the Academic Senate. The primary work of approving high school courses to meet A-G requirements falls to UCOP's High School Articulation group using criteria defined by BOARS. Council appreciates that working in collaboration with that group is an essential part of shared governance, and encourages BOARS to continue to confer with or advise that group. The authority to communicate policy on admissions lies with UCOP, as delegated by the Regents.

Academic Council recognizes BOARS' concern that some data science courses may not adequately prepare students for college-level mathematics coursework and that current Advanced Mathematics course criteria are inadequate. However, Council also recognizes that implementing new criteria will take some time, both to allow sufficient time for high school counselors, students, and families to change course and to develop clarified guidelines for the types of courses that may indeed validate others. Council endorses BOARS members' vote to form a workgroup that will make its recommendations to BOARS on

criteria for the Advanced Mathematics categories of subject area C and criteria for Advanced Mathematics to validate the Algebra II/Mathematics III requirement. BOARS has the authority to appoint the members of this workgroup and the workgroup will report to BOARS. Council hopes that the workgroup will be empaneled shortly, deliberate appropriately, and make its recommendations to BOARS expeditiously.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Cochran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Susan Cochran, Chair  
Academic Council

Cc: Academic Council  
Provost & Executive Vice President Newman  
Vice President Gullatt  
Executive Director Yoon-Wu  
Senate Division Executive Directors  
Senate Executive Director Lin