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Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate
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University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
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March 4, 2019

CHAIRS OF SENATE DIVISIONS AND COMMITTEES:

Re: Systemwide Review of Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation 636.E

Dear Colleagues,

I am forwarding for systemwide Academic Senate review a revision to Senate Regulation 636.E, proposed to address equity concerns related to how UC students are allowed to satisfy the University’s Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR). The revisions were proposed by the Santa Barbara Division and have been endorsed by the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE). The specific revision appears in the UCOPE cover letter and also on page four of this packet in the context of the full text of Regulation 636.

Please submit comments to the Academic Senate office at SenateReview@ucop.edu by May 15, 2019 to allow us to compile and summarize comments for the Academic Council’s May 22 meeting. As always, any committee that considers these matters outside its jurisdiction or charge may decline to comment.

In addition, members of the Academic Council encourage divisions to consult with writing program and/or department leads on this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert C. May, Chair
Academic Council

cc: Academic Council
Senate Directors



Darlene Francis, Chair
University Committee on Preparatory Education
darlenefrancis@berkeley.edu

University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

January 31, 2019

**ROBERT MAY, CHAIR
ACADEMIC SENATE**

RE: PROPOSED REVISION TO SENATE REGULATION 636.E

Dear Robert,

The UCSB Undergraduate Council has proposed a revision to Senate Regulation 636.E in order to address equity concerns related to how UC students are allowed to satisfy the University's Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR). Please note that at UCSB, preparatory education matters are under the purview of the Undergraduate Council but at the systemwide level, UCOPE supervises the ELWR.

The committee discussed the proposed revision (on page 3 of the attached) during our meeting on January 25th and unanimously voted in favor of the revision. I would like to recommend a minor amendment to the language regarding exceptions to clarify that the student's leave of absence should be for non-academic reasons. UCOPE asks Academic Council to consider the proposed revision to SR 636.E as follows:

E. Once enrolled at the University of California, a student must satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement before earning transfer credit for the purpose of satisfying any subsequent University of California writing requirements ~~by taking courses at other institutions.~~ Exceptions to this requirement may be made by the appropriate agency of the Academic Senate Division of the student's campus in cases where a student has earned transferable credit while on an approved leave of absence for non-academic reasons.

We believe this proposed revision to SR 636.E will eliminate the need for students to retake the required UC course, which delays their progress. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Darlene Francis in blue ink.

Darlene Francis,
Chair, University Committee on Preparatory Education



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Santa Barbara Division
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(805) 893-2885
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Henning Bohn, Chair
Debra Blake, Executive Director

January 15, 2019

JONATHAN GLATER, CHAIR, UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JURISDICTION
ANNE ZANZUCCHI, CHAIR, UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
DARLENE FRANCIS, CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON PREPARATORY EDUCATION

Re: Senate Regulation 636

Dear Colleagues:

I write on behalf of the Undergraduate Council at the Santa Barbara Division. The Council hereby requests a review and interpretation of Senate Regulation (SR) 636.E, which specifies how a student can satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) using transfer credit.

According to SR 636, students may satisfy the ELWR in three ways: 1) by passing the Analytical Writing Placement Examination (AWPE), 2) by achieving an adequate score on another approved examination, or 3) by earning at least 3 semester or 4 quarter units of transferable college credit in English composition.

Incoming freshmen who have not taken or do not pass the AWPE, or who have not met the ELWR with another examination (such as SAT, ACT, or Advanced Placement), must enroll in an English composition course at their home campus. The manner in which these students can satisfy the ELWR is partly specified by SR 636.E:

E. Once enrolled at the University of California, a student must satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement before earning transfer credit for the purpose of satisfying any subsequent University of California writing requirements by taking courses at other institutions.

In other words, SR 636.E specifies that, once matriculated to a UC campus, a student may not subsequently fulfill the Entry Level Writing Requirement using a course taken at another college or university. While reasonable on its face, we have found that SR 636.E unintentionally disadvantages a small number of students on our campus each year.

Occasionally, students enrolled at our campus must take temporary leave for well-justified reasons. Often these students then enroll at their local community colleges, and one of the courses they are typically advised to take is in English composition. If they return to UCSB after their leave, they are not permitted to use this

course to satisfy the ELWR. It seems inequitable to the Council that these students must retake an equivalent course at UC, when a normal transfer student (intercampus or CCC) may satisfy the ELWR using the same course. The duplication of work is likely to lead to student frustration and a delay in progress. If the course is deemed equivalent and acceptable for transfer, it seems academically sound that it also be permitted to fulfill the ELWR under these limited circumstances, through a petition process.

The Undergraduate Council would like to know whether exceptions may be granted to this regulation. If not, we propose a minor change to the wording of SR 626.E (see attached) to explicitly allow exceptions to be granted.

Best regards,



Trevor Hayton, Chair
Undergraduate Council

Enclosures: Undergraduate Council Memo of January 25, 2018
Dean of Undergraduate Education Memo of February 22, 2018
UCEP Response of March 16, 2018
Undergraduate Council Response of April 30, 2018

CC: Henning Bohn, Chair, Santa Barbara Division
Debra Blake, Executive Director, Santa Barbara Division
Eric Prieto, Vice-Chair, Undergraduate Council, UCOPE Member
Jocelyn Banaria, Committee Analyst, UCRJ
Brenda Abrams, Committee Analyst, UCEP, UCOPE

636. University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement (Am 19 Feb 2004; Am Jan 2008)

- A. University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement is a reading and writing proficiency requirement. Each student must be able to understand and to respond adequately to written material typical of reading assignments in freshman courses. This ability must be demonstrated in student writing that communicates effectively to University faculty. (Am 30 Nov 83; Am 23 May 96; Am 19 Feb 2004)
- B. There are three ways a student may satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement prior to enrollment at the University of California: by passing the University of California Analytical Writing Placement Examination, by attaining an acceptable score on another approved test of Writing, or by earning at least 3 semester credits or 4 quarter units of transferable college credit in English composition. (Am 19 Feb 2004; Am 30 Jan 2008)
 - 1. The content of the University of California Analytical Writing Placement Examination shall be approved by the University Committee on Preparatory Education, which shall also set the passing standard on the University of California Analytical Writing Placement Examination.
 - 2. The list of approved tests of Writing shall be determined by the University Committee on Preparatory Education, with the concurrence of the Academic Council of the Academic Senate. The acceptable scores for each test of Writing shall be determined by the University Committee on Preparatory Education. (The current list of approved tests and the corresponding acceptable scores is on the [University of California, Office of The President web site.](#))
 - 3. The student must earn a letter grade of at least C in any transferable college English composition course used to satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement. (Am 6 Mar 74; Am 28 May 80; Am 26 May 82; Am 30 Nov 83; Am 4 May 86; Am 23 May 1996; 30 Jan 2008)
- C. There are two ways a student may satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement subsequent to enrollment at the University of California: by passing the University of California Analytical Writing Placement Examination, or by successfully completing a course or program of study approved for that purpose by an appropriate agency of the Academic Senate Division of the student's campus. (Am 28 May 80; Am 26 May 82; Am 19 Feb 2004; Am 30 Jan 2008)
 - 1. To satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement by means of a course, the student must earn a C or above or its equivalent. A student who receives a final grade of C- or below has not fulfilled the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement and may repeat the course(s). (Am 30 Jan 2008)
 - 2. Any award of baccalaureate credit for University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement course(s) must be consonant with [SR 761](#). (En 30 Nov 83; Am 19 Feb 2004; Am 30 Jan 2008)
- D. A student who has not satisfied the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement prior to enrollment at the University of California must do so as early as possible during the first year in residence. A student who has not satisfied the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement after three quarters or two semesters of enrollment will not be eligible to enroll for a fourth quarter or third semester. Exceptions to this requirement may be made by an appropriate agency of the Academic Senate Division of the student's campus. (Am 26 May 82; Am 23 May 96; Am 19 Feb 2004; Am 19 Feb 2004; Am 30 Jan 2008)
- E. Once enrolled at the University of California, a student must satisfy the University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement before earning transfer credit for the purpose of satisfying any subsequent University of California writing requirements ~~by taking courses at other institutions.~~ Exceptions to this requirement may be made by the appropriate agency of the Academic Senate Division of the student's campus in cases where a student has earned transferable credit while on an approved leave of absence. (Am 30 Jan 2008)