2007-08 Annual Report
Faculty Board for Undecided/Undeclared Students

DIVISIONAL SENATE ASSEMBLY (DSA), IRVINE DIVISION

Council Operations
Amelia Regan, Computer Science-Systems in the Donald Bren School of Information Computer Sciences, chaired the Faculty Board for Undecided/Undeclared Students in 2007-08. The Board met once during the academic year to review and make recommendations to the Undecided/Undeclared Advising Program.

Proposal: Sophomore Advising Program for Undecided/Undeclared Students
“In fall 2007, the Undecided/Undeclared Advising Board unanimously supported a proposal from the U/U advising staff and director to change the bylaws for the U/U advising program so as to allow the program to extend into the second year. This proposal was forwarded to CEP later that quarter and was discussed by both the Policy subcommittee (December) and the full CEP (January).” The Programs and Policy Subcommittee Chair Don Senear “replied with several concerns which were echoed by the full CEP along with a request for a full description of the proposed sophomore programs as well as some data on outcomes for undeclared students.”

Questions and responses included:
1. Are the proposed Bylaw changes necessary to make the advising changes?
   a. The Bylaw states that the Board or its designated agents shall act as advisors to “first year Undecided/Undeclared” students.
   b. If students who are not freshmen are allowed to be in the Undecided/Undeclared program, other than by the Dean’s exception, then this bylaw should either call these students “lower division Undecided/Undeclared students” or just “Undecided/Undeclared students.”
2. What population of students will be served by making the proposed changes to the advising program?
   a. A small group of U/U freshman who at the end of their freshman status are academically ineligible to transfer to a school but who have not been dismissed from the university.
   b. Students who would choose to stay in the U/U program for additional time were they allowed to do so.
   c. A small group that includes students in good standing from other schools who are not making progress towards a degree in their declared school and are, thus, subject to disqualification on that basis.
3. What are the details of the proposed program?
   a. The advising staff put together a proposal for a sophomore program that includes required quarterly advising, a check list of quarterly requirements and agreement contract, and a sophomore handbook.
   b. The U/U advising program is unique in being a lower division only program. It does not have any majors, and thus the counselors are all trained to know about the requirements of all majors and schools and to help students to meet those requirements for whatever major they wish to declare.
4. What are the data concerning outcomes for undeclared students at UCI?
   a. A table showing UCI cumulative GPA’s for students entering UCI as freshmen for each of the fall cohorts beginning with 2000 was supplied. This is strong
evidence that these students are at least as academically successful at UCI as are their declared counterparts.
b. A table for the entering cohorts of 2000-2003 showed that the U/U’s are graduating at similar or faster rates than are their declared counterparts.

The Faculty Board for Undecided/Undeclared Students unanimously endorsed the proposal and it was sent forward to the CEP Programs and Policy Subcommittee.

CEP Programs and Policy members, upon careful evaluation, determined that for the small number of students impacted, it was not necessary to make changes to the bylaws. Procedures are already in place that allow for exceptions that cover the needs of these students. This proposal did not go forward to the full Council on Educational Policy but was withdrawn.

Amelia Regan, Chair  
Faculty Board for Undecided/Undeclared Students

Board Membership:
Amelia Regan, ICS, Chair  
Philip Thompson, Arts  
Charles Glabe, Biological Sciences  
Michael McNally, Engineering  
Cynthia Claxton, Humanities  
Patrick Guidotti, Physical Sciences  
Roxanne Silver, Social Ecology  
Tony McGann, Social Science

Ex Officio:  
Sharon Salinger, Dean, DUE

Consultants:  
Rudi Berkelhamer, Associate Dean, DUE  
Kimberly Ayala, Director of Undecided/Undeclared Advising, DUE

Representative:  
Lisa Woo, ASUCI

Analyst  
Molly McGuire, Academic Senate