Council on Undergraduate Admissions & Relations with Schools
2007-2008 Annual Report

To the Irvine Divisional Assembly:
The Council on Undergraduate Admissions & Relations with Schools (CUARS) submits its report of activities for the academic year 2007-08.

I. Council Operations
Craig Martens, Professor of Chemistry in the School of Physical Sciences, chaired the Council on Undergraduate Admissions & Relations with Schools (CUARS) in 2007-08. The Council met eight times during the year. The meetings were attended by eight elected members, the Director (ex officio) of the Office of Admissions & Relations with Schools (OARS), the Board of Admissions & Relations with Schools (BOARS) Representative, the Librarians’ Association of the University of California, Irvine (LAUC-I) Representative, and the Associated Students of University of California, Irvine (ASUCI and AGS) representatives. Throughout the year, Director of Admissions & Relations with Schools Marguerite Bonous-Hammarth kept CUARS informed of the activities of the Admissions Office at UCI. Craig Martens, the representative to the Enrollment Council, Michael Poston, Director Office of Institutional Research, and Michael Clark, the Vice Provost for Academic Planning, kept CUARS informed about enrollment activities.

II. Divisional Issues/Policies
A. American History and Institutions Requirement (October, 2007)
Regulation 510 American History and Institutions requirement in the Irvine Senate Manual is missing the word “accredited” in its description of the requirement of American History for graduation. CUARS voted in favor of recommending to CEP to add the word “accredited” to Regulation 510 so UCI applicants understand that home schooling courses and other non-accredited high school courses are not ways in which the American History requirement can be satisfied. The regulation now reads:

Completion in an accredited high school of one year of United States history with grades of C or better, or one semester of United States history and one semester of United States government with grades of C or better.

B. History requirement for students from China and Japan (November, 2007)
The Council endorsed the repeal of Academic Senate Regulation 458, which states that graduates of high schools in China and Japan are allowed to substitute satisfactory courses in history and English. The regulation was repealed because it has no place in the manual.

C. Transfer Pathways (January, 2008)
CUARS was the lead Senate committee participating in the process of implementation of the transfer paths which strive to streamline lower division major preparation requirements for transfer students. Jennifer Silverman, from the Office of Admissions spoke to CUARS about the work being done to ensure
that freshman/sophomore courses taken at community colleges will count toward majors at UC schools.

D. Shared, Review, Talk by Mark Rashid, Chair of BOARS (May, 2008)
Mark Rashid (UC Davis), the Chair of BOARS, was invited to visit UCI CUARS to discuss Shared Review at UC. Shared Review is the centralization of applicant file processing to one or two campuses. The aim is to reduce redundancy and cost; the typical freshman application is read six or seven times at different schools. Shared Review will assess applications based on two scores, a holistic score and a formulaic score. Admissions departments at individual schools are concerned that funds will stop going to admissions' units and that individual schools will not play an appropriate role in the review process.

E. Earth System Science, Ellen Druffel (May, 2008)
Earth System Science put forth a resolution which calls for adding Earth and Space Science to UC’s laboratory science high school requirement. This requirement change would mean that earth system science would count as a lab science course along with biology, chemistry and physics. BOARS has assessed this resolution in the past and rejected it due to the fact that most earth science courses are descriptive in nature and not rigorous enough to satisfy the laboratory requirement.

III. System-wide Issues/Policies

A. Comments on the first BOARS proposal to reform UC’s Freshman Eligibility (November, 2008)
CUARS voted in favor of broadening the pool of eligible applicants while considerably limiting guarantee for any student. With this new proposal, significantly more students would be “entitled to review” This way, top-performing students who do not meet some of the technical requirements due to the fact that their high schools do not offer enough a – g courses etc. would still be eligible to have their applications reviewed. This eligibility process would mean that a more diverse student population who have succeeded under non-traditional circumstances could have the ability to attend a UC school.

B. Comments on second BOARS proposal (June, 2007)
CUARS members endorsed the return of the 12.5% guarantee in the local (high school) context and the 5% guarantee in the state context while maintaining the original reform to expand the number of students who are entitled to review based on a 2.8 GPA and having completed 11 of the 15 a-g courses. At the end of the AY2007-08 at the University assembly voted in favor of a BOARS compromise: 9% local and 9% state guarantee along with the reform to expand the number of students who are entitled review. Currently this proposal is being review by the UC Board of Regents.

IV. Continuing Issues
A. Review of the Revised BOARS proposal on UC Freshman Eligibility
CUARS continues to monitor BOARS’ review of UC eligibility. The current proposal.

B. Shared Review
CUARS will continue to assess Shared Review policies. There are issues concerning who gets access to the big questions about admissions policies. The main problem with Shared Review involves a clash between the holistic and machine approach. These two reads of applications are in tension with one another because campuses may have different priorities with regard to holistic aspects of the application (e.g., diversity, leadership, community involvement). Also campuses will have to know the fiscal impact of Shared Review. More information is needed about work load that in the interim before Shared Review is fully under way.

C. Enrollment Issues
CUARS will continue to review and assess enrollment projects in light of the current budget situation. UCI has been ordered by the UC Office of the President not to increase freshman/transfer enrollment for AY2009-2010.

D. Work Group to monitor Admissions Office
In light of the recent announcement regarding the transition in the leadership of the Office of Admissions and Relations to Schools, it seems important that the Academic Senate assist the transition during the upcoming year (AY2008-09). An ad hoc committee from the Senate has been established to monitor procedures for the upcoming admission season. Craig Martens (Chair of CUARS 2007-08), John LaRue (Chair of CUARS, 2008-09), and Jim Given (representative to system-wide BOARS) will serve on this committee.

V. Guests
• Jennifer Silverman, Admissions
• Manuel Gomez, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs
• Tim Bradley, Academic Senate Chair
• Luisa Crespo, Academic Senate Associate Director
• Paula Smith, Associate Athletics Director
• Mark Rashid, Assistant Athletics Director
• Michael Poston, Director, Office of Institutional Research
• Michael Clark, Vice Provost for Academic Planning
• Ellen Druffel, Professor Earth System Science

Members
Craig Martens, Chair, Physical Sciences
Stephen Tucker, Arts
Lee Bardwell, Biological Sciences
John LaRue, Engineering
Andromache Karanika, Humanities
Craig Martens, Physical Sciences
John Whiteley, Social Ecology
Bruce Berg, Social Sciences

Ex Officio:
Marguerite Bonous-Hammarth, Director, OARS
James Given, BOARS Representative

Consultants:
Joe Maestas, Director of Student Academic Advancement Services, DUE
Representatives
Cynthia Johnson, Librarians’ Association University of California, Irvine
Connie Ho, Associated Students University of California, Irvine
Eric Ruzek, Associated Graduated Students

Analyst: Michelle AuCoin