To the Irvine Divisional Assembly:
The Board on Undergraduate Scholarships, Honors & Financial Aid (BUSHFA) respectfully submits its report of activities for the 2015-16 academic year.

I. COUNCIL OPERATIONS
Louis DeSipio, Professor of Political Science and Chicano/Latino Studies in the School of Social Sciences, chaired the Board on Undergraduate Scholarships, Honors & Financial Aid (BUSHFA) in 2015-16. The Council met three times during the year. The meetings were attended by ten elected members, the Interim Director and Director of Financial Aid & Scholarships (ex officio), the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and Dean, Division of Undergraduate Education (ex officio), the Librarians’ Association of the University of California, Irvine (LAUC-I) Representative, the Associated Students of University of California, Irvine (ASUCI) Representative, the Associate Director for the Campuswide Honors Program, the Associate Director, Admissions & Relations with Schools, and the Director, Scholarship Opportunities Program. BUSHFA reports to the Council on Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience (CTLSE) and the BUSHFA Chair is an ex officio member of CTLSE.

II. DIVISIONAL ISSUES/POLICIES
A. Latin Honors / Regulation 415
(Meeting dates: 10/28/15 & 6/11/16; Memo: 06/13/16)
Board members reviewed the 2014-15 Latin Honors percentages submitted by each school and noted how these numbers compared to previous reviews. According to Regulation 415, the maximum award amount for each school is 12% broken down into three categories: honors – cum laude (top 5 - 12%), high honors– magna cum laude (top 2 - 4%), and highest honors – summa cum laude (top 1%). No more than 12% of a school’s graduating class can be awarded honors.

Members noted that certain schools, such as the Francisco J. Ayala School of Biological Sciences, the School of Humanities, and the School of Social Ecology exceeded the 12% maximum in Latin Honors; other Schools had exceeded the target in previous years. The Registrar commented that these numbers, in part, reflected improvement in student performance. Following last year’s decision to monitor the awarding of Latin Honors by the School of Social Ecology because they exceeded the 12% maximum, the Board noted that the while the School did decrease their numbers in comparison to the previous year, the Board will continue to monitor the School of Social Ecology.

In light of the number of schools exceeding the 12% Latin Honors allotment, the Registrar suggested that the Board consider increasing the Latin Honors average, or clarifying the language in Regulation 415 to encourage future school compliance with the 12% maximum. BUSHFA discussed possibly amending Regulation 415 to better suit the UC Irvine campus.

The Board is considering raising the cut-offs to the 16-18% range, which would be comparable to the targets at most other UC campuses, and has requested
additional information from the Registrar to inform their decision. The Board plans on making a final decision in Fall Quarter 2016. The Board will continue its annual review of Latin Honors and will address issues as they arise.

B. Scholarship Opportunities Program  
(Meeting dates: 10/28/15)  
BUSHFA members were solicited to participate in campus endorsement interviews for the Beinecke and Goldwater Scholarships. The Beinecke Scholarship funds up to $34,000 for graduate studies in Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and students must demonstrate a financial need. The Goldwater Scholarship funds one to two years of undergraduate study for students in Math, Science and Engineering and requirements include a GPA of 3.7 or higher.

C. Laud and Laurels  
(Meeting dates: 05/11/16)  
Since 1971, Lauds and Laurels has been the Alumni Association’s most important event to recognize students, staff, faculty and community members. The event held each spring allows the Alumni Association to award annually more than $100,000 in scholarships in the amounts of $2,500 for freshman and transfer students. Last year approximately $120,000 in scholarships was awarded.

Board members expressed their concern that the Alumni Association only has records for approximately 50% of UCI’s alumni. Also noted was the lack of student awareness about Alumni scholarships. Members were informed that efforts are underway to improve alumni contact information collection efforts, and events to increase alumni engagement are being planned for the coming year.

D. On-Line Restricted Scholarships  
(Meeting dates: 05/11/16, 06/01/16)  
In 2015-16, there was some confusion about timelines and expectations for scholarship review by board members. Members requested that all scholarship information be available via online review to allow members to review all materials and submit rankings by the agreed-upon deadlines.

E. FAFSA Changes  
Members were notified that changes in the FAFSA deadlines may result in shifts to the Financial Aid master calendar.

F. Continuing Business  
The Board will consider revisions to Regulation 415 pending receipt and review of information about Latin Honors from the Registrar’s Office.

IV. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Members  
Louis DeSipio, Social Sciences, Chair  
Sven Bernecker, Humanities  
Ellen Druffel, Physical Sciences  
Wayne Hayes, Information and Computer Science  
Lucas Hilderbrand, Humanities
Travis Huxman, Biological Sciences  
Jane Page, Arts  
Rossella Santagata, Education  
Frank Shi, Engineering  
Tammy Smecker-Hane, Physical Sciences  
Keyue Smedley, Engineering  
Dominik Wodarz, Biological Sciences  

**Ex Officio**  
Michael Dennin, Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and Dean of Undergraduate Education  
Thomas Parham, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs  

**Consultants**  
Christine Cha, Scholarships Coordinator, Financial Aid and Scholarships  
Brice Kikuchi, Interim Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships  
Chau Luu, Assistant Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships  
David Naimie, Associate Director, Admissions and Relations with Schools  
Lisa Roetzel, Associate Director, Campuswide Honors Program  
Toenya Rose, Acting Scholarships Coordinator, Financial Aid and Scholarships  
Rebecca Sanchez, Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships  
Michelle Tsai, Coordinator, Scholarship Opportunities Program  

**Representatives**  
Catherine Palmer, LAUC-I  
Aldo Laureano Sanchez, ASUCI  

**Guests**  
Elizabeth Bennett, University Registrar  
Barney Ellis-Perry, Assistant Vice Chancellor & Chief Executive Officer, Alumni Association