

**BOARD ON UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS AND
FINANCIAL AID
ANNUAL REPORT
2018-2019**

To the Irvine Divisional Assembly:

The Board on Undergraduate Scholarships, Honors & Financial Aid (BUSHFA) respectfully submits its report of activities for the academic year 2018-19.

I. Council Operations

Kristen Hatch, Associate Professor of Film & Media Studies, School of Humanities, chaired the Board on Undergraduate Scholarships, Honors & Financial Aid (BUSHFA) in 2018-19. The Council met three times during the year. The meetings were attended by ten elected members, the Director of Financial Aid & Scholarships, the Assistant Director of Scholarships, the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and Dean of the Division of Undergraduate Education (ex officio), the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs (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 Director for the Campuswide Honors Program, the Associate Director of Admissions & Relations with Schools, and the Director of the 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

A. Review of 2017-18 Latin Honors

(Meeting dates: 10/24/2018, 1/23/2019; Memos: 11/15/2018)

Board members reviewed the 2017-18 Latin Honors percentages submitted by each school and compared these numbers to previous reviews.

According to Regulation 415, no more than 16% of graduates within each school should receive Latin Honors. In 2017-18, the School of Biological Sciences awarded Latin Honors to 20.06% of its students, 4.5% over the threshold. BUSHFA sent a memo to Biological Sciences on 11/15/2018; and received a response on 12/5/2018 that the school was unaware that the GPA cutoffs provided by the Registrar were to be used only as a guide and that the school should use additional criteria if more than 16% of graduating students meet the GPA requirement. The school will amend their selection process immediately for 2018-2019.

Academic Units that deviated from these thresholds in 2016-17
(Pharmaceutical Sciences and Information and Computer

Sciences), stayed within the acceptable limits in 2017-18. The methods the schools enacted to award Latin Honors within the bylaw limits proved successful.

The Board continued its annual review of Latin Honors to address issues as they arise.

B. Scholarship Opportunities Program

(Status updates every meeting)

Members of the Board volunteered to participate in campus endorsement interviews for students applying for 16 nationally competitive scholarships. Endorsement interviews took place in October 2018.

SOP continues to build awareness across campus by conducting multiple outreach events to schools, departments, faculty gatherings, and campus scholar organizations. This year SOP held 6 outreach workshop events presented by theme, with an overall attendance of 469 students. These included two STEM workshops, and workshops focused on students in the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Public Health, and Social Ecology. In addition, separate workshops were held for international students.

SOP is establishing 5 new global engagement exchange program scholarships with Fulbright Canada. The program will start to award applicants in 2019-20 and students will start their study abroad beginning in 2020-21.

C. eSports

(Meeting dates: 10/31/2018 and 4/25/2019; Memo sent 11/15/2018)

The Senate Chair requested that BUSHFA review UCI's eSports program and identify any concerns regarding the program's sponsor-funded scholarships.

The Board believes a system of oversight should be established for sponsor-funded eSports scholarships. BUSHFA oversees academic scholarships. If these scholarships are based primarily on criteria other than academic merit, a new means of oversight will need to be created.

The eSports program received its first scholarship from Hyperice, a local Orange County medical device company. At BUSHFA's 4/24/2019 meeting, the Board reviewed the eSports draft scholarship FAQs and discussed oversight concerns. At this time, BUSHFA members do not feel that adding a Board member to the selection committee would be beneficial. However, they

recommend that faculty members from Medicine or Biological Sciences be asked to serve on the selection committee.

The Board suggested that eSports expand its outreach efforts to include students outside the Sports Medicine major.

BUSHFA requested to receive updates if requirements change and invited eSports for a presentation in fall 2019 to learn more about their ongoing scholarship efforts.

D. Online Restricted Scholarships

(Meeting dates: 10/31/2018, 1/25/2019, and 4/24/2019)

Members volunteered to serve on online restricted scholarship committees. Members were encouraged to volunteer for a minimum of three scholarship subcommittees. Board members absent during the assignments meeting were randomly assigned to the subcommittees. Whenever possible, reviewers in their second and third years of their terms were assigned to chair these subcommittees. Due to the large number of applications, some members in their first year were assigned to chair a subcommittee.

Members ranked applications during the last two weeks of May and the subcommittee chairs submitted ranked lists to the Financial Aid Director and analyst by the June 7, 2019 deadline. The Board will discuss the process beginning fall 2019 and provide any suggestions and improvements to OFAS.

OFAS hired two new FTE scholarship readers to assist with the expected increase in applications due to the new, improved scholarship platform.

The expected increase in scholarship application reviews was added to BUSHFA's issue list.

E. Financial Aid

(Status updates every meeting)

Financial Aid and Scholarships collaborated with University Advancement to centralize the scholarship process and the endowment, contracts, and gift agreements processes to provide a reliable funding model and improved overall management. The new scholarship platform will align with UCI's strategic plan and focus on retaining current students, rewarding engagement in campus organizations and social causes, and increasing merit scholarships. This system was approved by the Provost in winter 2019 and will

be rolled out in two timelines; migration from February through September 2019 and rollout from October through May 2020.

Selection criteria for centralized scholarships will move away from emphasizing longer essays to shorter responses. Points will be awarded for GPA, extracurricular activities, financial need, and academic scholarship.

Board members will continue to serve on selection committees for continuing students. The campus-wide scholarship selection committee will include two scholarship officers and three BUSHFA members. The Academic College scholarship selection committee will be comprised of two scholarship officers, one BUSHFA member, and two Academic College members.

Fabian Firoozi was hired as Assistant Director of Scholarships.

F. Continuing Business

The Board will consider the following issues for 2019-20:

Latin Honors Review

Online Restricted Scholarships

Scholarship Calendar and Application Increase

eSports Scholarship Practices

IV. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Faculty Members

Kristen Hatch, Chair, Humanities

James Emerson, Biological Sciences

Jiawei Chen, Social Sciences

Tammy Smecker-Hane, Physical Sciences

Raymond Klefstad, ICS

David Timberlake, Health Sciences

Jane Page, Arts

Jenny Rinehart, Social Ecology

Ali Mohraz, Engineering

Shuya Yin, Business

Ex-Officio

Michael Dennin, Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and Dean of the Division of Undergraduate Education

Edgar Dormitorio, Interim Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs

Consultants

Rose Jones, Director, Scholarship Opportunities Program

Richard (Kuni) Kondo, Financial Aid and Scholarships

Fabian Firoozi, Assistant Director, Scholarships
Rebecca Sanchez, Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships
Mark Naimie, Associate Director, Admissions and Relations with Schools
Lisa Roetzel, Director, Administration, Campuswide Honors Program

Representatives

John Sisson, LAUC-I
Sungmin Park, ASUCI (Fall Quarter)
Jeremy Bunda, ASUCI (Winter and Spring Quarters)

Senate Analyst

Rachel Mangold