Academic Senate
Spring 2019 Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE CHAIR ELECT

The Academic Senate at UCI closes the year with both a sense of accomplishment and the knowledge of work underway. As previously reported, we have recently added a Council on Equity and Inclusion (CEI) to our slate of councils, that is, Senate committees the chairs of which are members of the Cabinet. Now fully operational, CEI will help us as Senate faculty better engage with issues of diversity and climate. These issues have been front-and-center concerns of the administration at Irvine and at the UC Office of the President. They are concerns that we fully share. We look forward to continued partnership with the administration to figure out how to better attract, nurture, and retain a professoriate that reflects California's multiplicities and to build a more inclusive graduate-student pipeline to the profession.

A large segment of these graduate students will be increasingly served by self-supporting graduate professional degree programs. In our first newsletter of the year, I remarked that some 20% of graduate students at UCI were now in self-supporting programs. That percentage has already doubled as of our latest enrollment counts. The Academic Senate was well-represented on two working groups that were set up to consider implementation and resource concerns with regard to such programs, and various recommendations have now been passed along to the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for his consideration. As we continue to adapt to this new environment, the Senate remains committed to reviewing proposals for new self-supporting programs and to continuing assessment of ongoing programs with an eye to academic quality, to accessibility, and to fostering the good that these programs can do in terms of supporting our teaching, research, and public service missions.

Please read on to find out how the Academic Senate has been otherwise advancing shared governance.

SYSTEMWIDE BUSINESS

Systemwide Issues/Updates

Proposed Memorial on Fossil Fuel Divestment

At its meeting of May 2, 2019, the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly voted (11 to 15 with 2 abstentions) to reject the proposed Memorial to the Regents calling for divestment of the University's endowment portfolio of all investments in the 200 publicly traded fossil fuel companies with the largest carbon reserves. Although the proposed Memorial was rejected by the Irvine Division, it was approved by several other Divisions thus meeting the threshold set out in Senate Bylaw 90 to prompt a Systemwide vote by all UC Academic Senate faculty.

A ballot was circulated to the voting members of the Senate, including a brief account of the proposed Memorial's history, an explanation of its provisions, and a succinct statement of the arguments in its favor and against it. If approved by a simple majority, the Memorial will be sent by the Chair of the Assembly to the President for submission to the Regents.

Irvine Review of Proposed Revisions to the APM, Bylaws, Regulations and Appendices

REVIEWED AT SENATE CABINET LEVEL:

- **Forwarded comments as part of the Systemwide review of the proposed revisions to Senate Regulation 636.E.** (Cabinet - 4/30/19)
  - Reviewed at Council Level by CEP (4/23/19)

- **Forwarded comments as part of the Systemwide review of UC Center Sacramento** (Cabinet - 6/4/19)
  - Reviewed at Council Level by CORCL (4/18/19), CPB (5/8/19), and GC (5/9/19)

- **Forwarded comments as part of the Systemwide review of the proposed new Academic Personnel Manual Section 011, Academic Freedom, Protection of Professional Standards, and Responsibilities of Non-Faculty Academic Appointees** (Cabinet - 6/4/19)
  - Reviewed at Council Level by CORCL (5/20/19), CFW (5/22/19), and CPT (5/23/19)

IRVINE DIVISION BUSINESS

Review of Irvine Division Bylaws, Regulations and Appendices

APPROVED AT THE MAY 2, 2019 ASSEMBLY MEETING:

Bylaw 60. Committees, Committee on

The modifications give the Committee on Committees (COC) the authority to remove members from Senate Committees (previously, members could only be removed by the Divisional Senate Assembly as stipulated in Bylaw 155). (Cabinet – 5/2/19)

Appendix I, Chapter VI. School of Humanities

The modifications formalize updates that were previously approved by the School's Faculty Executive Committee in spring 2018, and clarify procedures around Chair and Vice Chair terms (the Vice Chair serves one year as Vice Chair before becoming Chair for the second year of a two-year term) and preventing any Department from having more than two members as representatives to the Divisional Senate Assembly of the Irvine Division. (Cabinet – 5/2/19)

IRVINE DIVISION BUSINESS

APPROVED AT THE JUNE 6, 2019 ASSEMBLY MEETING:

Regulation 918. Candidacy Committee

The modifications aim to clarify how exceptions to general memberships are handled for the Graduate Division and graduate degree programs with respect to the member composition of candidacy and doctoral committees. (Cabinet – 6/6/19)

Bylaw 27. Election of Representatives

The modifications intend to provide Schools and Colleges with greater flexibility in when their Faculty Executive Committees hold their elections and the length of terms for their representatives. (Cabinet – 6/6/19)

Endowed Chairs

ENDORSED BY SENATE CABINET:
(Reviewed at the Council level by CPB)

- **Endorsed the establishment of the Kure It Cancer Research Chair in Genitourinary Oncology Research in the School of Medicine** (Cabinet - 3/19/19)

- **Conditionally endorsed the proposal to establish the Mohannad and Rana Malas Chair in Islamic Legal Studies in the School of Law** (Cabinet - 4/30/19)

Degree Programs

- **Approved the Ph.D. in Global Studies** (Cabinet - 3/19/19)
  - Reviewed at Council Level by GC (11/8/18) and CPB (2/27/19)

- **Endorsed the proposal to change the names of the M.S. and Ph.D. in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering to Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering in the Henry Samueli School of Engineering** (Cabinet - 4/30/19)
  - Reviewed at Council Level by GC (4/11/19)

- **Reviewed the proposed online Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration** (Cabinet - 5/21/19)
  - Reviewed at Council Level by CEP (1/10/19), CORCL (4/29/19 & 1/17/19), CTLSE (5/6/19 & 1/7/19), CPB (5/8/19 & 1/23/19), SCOC (5/14/19), and CUARS (5/14/19 & 2/12/19)

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<div align="center">**Other**</div>

- **Endorsed the pre-proposal to establish the School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences which included proposals to consolidate the Departments of Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences and establish the Department of Clinical Pharmacy Practice** (Cabinet - 5/21/19) (Assembly - 6/6/19)
    - Reviewed at Council Level by CPB, CEP, CORCL and GC

- **Endorsed the transfer of administration for the Minor in Archaeology from the Department of Classics to the Department of Art History** (Cabinet – 5/21/19) (Assembly - 6/6/19)
    - Reviewed at Council Level by CEP (5/2/19) and CPB (5/8/19)

- **Forwarded comments to the administration on the Guidance Concerning Disruption of University Activities** (Cabinet - 5/21/19)
    - Reviewed at Council Level by CTLSE (4/1/19) and CFW (4/9/19)

- **Forwarded comments to the administration on the Campus Free Speech Policy** (Cabinet – 6/4/19)
    - Reviewed at Council Level by CTLSE (4/1/19) and CFW (5/14/19)

ACTIVITIES BY SENATE COUNCILS

Council on Academic Personnel (CAP)

CAP Spring 2019 Business

In addition to its normal caseload throughout the year, CAP works with the Office of Academic Personnel (AP) on issues related to the merit and promotion process. This year, changes to the policies affecting the nearly 90 UCI Lecturer with Security of Employment (LSOE) series faculty were effective October 1, 2018, and included changes to the adoption of the Professorial series rank/step advancement and salary scales and the eligibility to earn sabbatical credits in accordance with the same guidelines governing sabbatical ladder-rank faculty. CAP and AP collaborated to develop a process for assisting schools in mapping their faculty from LSOE into the new Professors of Teaching series. Once submitted, CAP reviewed each proposal and generated feedback to the schools with the aim of ensuring that all cases were handled equitably. Most of the proposals have now passed through CAP and AP, although some of them are still in revision. The Professors of Teaching rank and step will be assigned once the mapping process has been completed.

CAP is still meeting regularly, but we take this opportunity to thank CAP members whose terms end this year. They have worked with more diligence and effort than most faculty likely appreciate, and in the process, they have formed a real community of colleagues and friends. They will be missed. Fortunately, a new, confidence-inspiring set of faculty have been elected to take their place next fall. On behalf of the returning CAP members, we welcome them. CAP is a labor-intensive committee, but it is also one of the most important, most rewarding service opportunities at UCI.

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Council on Educational Policy (CEP)

Interdisciplinary Teaching Support Award (ITSA) Guidelines

CEP has revised the guidelines for the Interdisciplinary Teaching Support Award (ITSA). The Call for proposals will go out mid December 2018 or in January 2019. The ITSA awards support the presentation of new interdisciplinary classes; preference will be given to proposals for courses that departmental and staffing constraints would otherwise make unlikely. The ITSA award can go to the instructors' research accounts should they wish to teach the course on overload, or the ITSA award will support a department to replace or otherwise support faculty members to teach a single class outside the current range of classes offered by their department.

BA Degree for CA Prisoners

CEP heard a presentation of a proposal to establish a BA degree for California prisoners by Val Jenness, UCI Professor of Criminology, Law, and Society. Professor Jenness summarized the background and rationale for establishing such a degree in the near future. The proposal was presented as an information/discussion item for CEP members, rather than a formal review for an actual BA degree. In an informal vote, CEP members voted in favor of the proposal.

APRB Report – School of Biological Sciences

CEP has reviewed the 2018 APRB external review report for the School of Biological Sciences and the School of Biological Science's response to the external review. CEP has forwarded its review report of the external review and response.

Proposals Received

CEP endorsed a proposal to departmentalize Global and International studies. CEP is in the process of reviewing a proposal for a new Minor in Armenian Studies.

Upcoming Issues

CEP is in the process of discussing UCI Esports' funding sources and distribution of funding to students as well as Esports' connection to undergraduate education.

Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity, and Academic Freedom (CFW)

UC Irvine ADA Coordinator

At its meeting on April 9, 2019, the new ADA Coordinator located in OEOD, Andrew Berk, was introduced and gave brief updates regarding ADA Compliance and Accessibility at UCI. The new ADA Coordinator's goal is to create a culture of disability rights and integration, and to make UCI the model of ADA compliance for the UC system. Another focus is to build awareness through partnerships and education. Signage is extremely important to provide pathways of travel for those with disabilities. Architectural access, that is, access to enter and exit buildings, should be improved. Accessibility of webpages and electronic materials will be examined for areas of improvement. Recommendations for emergency planning will be implemented. Recruitment of students, faculty, and staff with disabilities will take place to assist in planning and implementation. Universal design is the goal for the ADA compliance and accessibility on campus.

Campus Assault Resources and Education (CARE)

During the November CFW meeting a member inquired about populations on campus that utilize CARE services, and if CARE had sufficient resources and funding to accommodate these populations. At its April 9, 2019 meeting, Eli Pascal, Assistant Director of CARE, presented additional information. CARE has insufficient funding and resources for the population it is currently serving. CARE receives student fees for its program, but is serving faculty, staff, and student affiliates (partners, etc.) now due to need. There has been an over 100% increase in need for services. The program is impacted by particular instances that impact the whole campus (emergencies, trauma, etc.), but there is no contingency plan for additional resources during these instances. UCOP mandates a response within 24 hours. The office provides a response from 8am-5pm Monday-Friday, and partners with a local organization during off-hours for responses. The program should have some form of guaranteed funding, but UCI has not identified permanent funding at this time. The new Title IX changes have impacted the program in terms of policies, procedures, and victim and witness responses, and will continue to do so. The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and the Associate Vice Chancellor of Wellness, Health, and Counseling Services, oversees the program.

UCI Guidance Concerning Disruption of University Activities

The campus has published Guidance Concerning Disruption of University Activities. This guidance is being implemented on an interim basis while the campus comment period is underway. It is designed to prevent disruption of University activities, protect lawful access to campus programs and facilities, avoid unsafe behavior, and prevent physical harm to persons or property. Its application does not vary according to the cause of content of a particular protest, speech, or other form of expression.

At its meeting on April 9, 2019, members discussed this issue. Clarification on whether these rules applied only to students and staff and not to faculty was suggested. Definitions of "peaceful protest" and what would "silence anyone" are recommended. The idea of "safe spaces" should be explained in relation to this policy. There should be a robust protection of free speech, but members questioned what might be considered "bad conduct" on the part of a student. The specification that conduct that "unduly" interferes will constitute disruption seems important but might need fuller definition. Members questioned whether the criteria are sufficiently clear regarding when students, staff, and faculty need to alert campus police, campus administration, or other campus officials in order to act "reasonably" in response to a planned speaker or event. Further clarification of what is meant by "University Activity" is recommended. Members also questioned if this policy would only apply to sanctioned or registered events on campus.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Significant Changes in Retiree Health Benefits Options

At the joint April 2019 Council of UC Retiree Associations (CUCRA) and Council of UC Emeriti Association (CUCEA) meetings, Michael Baptista, Executive Director of Benefits Programs and Strategy for the UC Office of the President (UCOP), presented a briefing regarding a Medicare Advantage PPO Request For Proposals (RFP) that had been sent out by UCOP. He presented the information as "pre-decisional" and "confidential/not subject to disclosure". His presentation outlined a new option for retiree health benefits and the probable elimination of several existing options. Despite the lack of shared information or important details about this proposal, Baptista indicated a decision by UCOP is scheduled for May/June 2019 with detailed plan information available for fall Open Enrollment and that the new plan would be implemented for January 2020.

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At its meeting on May 14, 2019, the Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity, and Academic Freedom (CFW), discussed these proposed significant changes. Members agreed there should be deliberate and appropriate review of any major changes in current options, including consultation with faculty and other stakeholders, as well as more transparency regarding the details. The available materials are characterized by insufficient data regarding cost implications for retirees, cost savings for the University of California, and potential disruptions and other transitional issues. The implementation timeline of January 2020 is insufficient to provide careful analysis and review and a smooth transition to a new system. Therefore, it is requested that appropriate committee and stakeholder reviews of these proposals occur without haste, even if that means delaying any possible implementation until January 2021.

Free Speech Policy

The campus recently published a new free speech policy that is being implemented on an interim basis. The policy is designed to provide a context in which to understand and ensure free speech at UCI and to form the basis for applying other speech-related policies. The Council discussed this interim policy at its meeting on May 14, 2019.

Items Reviewed from Systemwide

- Review of Proposed New Academic Personnel Manual (APM), Section 011, Academic Freedom, Protection of Professional Standards, and Responsibilities of NonFaculty Academic Appointees

- Systemwide Review of Proposed Interim Policy on Immigration Enforcement at UC Health Facilities

Upcoming Issue

CFW will discuss the Office of Inclusive Excellence and Transportation Services.

Council on Planning and Budget (CPB)
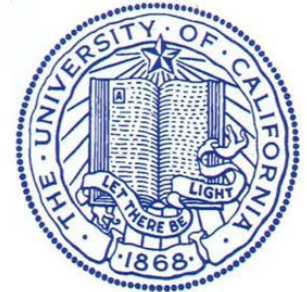
Pre-Proposal for School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences

CPB reviewed the pre-proposal to establish a School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences which included a request to consolidate the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Department of Pharmacology and establish a Department of Clinical Pharmacy Practice. The Council had expressed concerns about the readiness of the proposal and expressed reservations about the proposed compensation plan. CPB voted to endorse the consolidation and establishment and continues to monitor developments with the compensation plan.

English Proficiency Requirement for Admissions and Teaching Assistantships

CPB discussed the proposed changes to the English proficiency requirements for admissions and teaching assistantships. The Council endorsed a new policy that does not discriminate on the basis of citizenship or country of origin but is based on an evaluation of English proficiency necessary for graduate students and TAs to be successful. CPB identified some issues related to planning, budget and resource allocation, and administrative impacts that could be considered further in developing the new policy.

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Council on Research, Computing, and Libraries (CORCL)

Open Access 2020

CORCL voted to recommend to the Provost that UC Irvine endorse the Open Access 2020 Expression of Interest. The Provost has since signed this on behalf of the campus. The OA 2020 Expression of Interest refers to the global initiative that seeks large-scale implementation of free online access to largely unrestricted use and re-use of scholarly research articles. The Council continues to discuss ways the campus can support making scholarly work available at the broadest level possible.

Pre-Proposal for the School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences

CORCL reviewed the pre-proposal to establish the School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences. The Council was pleased to find strong letters of support from the Provost indicating allotment of appropriate FTE lines and seed funding. Members expressed concern regarding adequate consideration of computing needs. The Council advised that the proposers demonstrate a commitment to the aims of careful evidence-based science in the full proposal.

Council on Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience (CTLSE)

Canvas Issues

Members previously expressed concern regarding messaging functions in Canvas, default options, Grade Book/Grade Predictor issues, and placement test taking via Canvas. At its meeting on April 1, 2019, Erik Kelly, Instructional Technology Support Manager, OIT presented updates and provided additional information.

A new Grade Book is coming. Improvements include a setting for a late or never-submitted assignment grades. There will also be a final grades override which allows an instructor to specify a grade instead of the preset calculation. Concern was expressed concern regarding the slowness of response by Canvas and the course management, and enhancement of projects. It was explained that OIT has a limited ability to alter features, but that there is a monthly "Customer Success Manager" call to discuss issues. Once EEE is fully retired, OIT should be able to focus on adding features to Canvas. OIT reviews third-party tools such as McGraw-Hill, and can add their content/services, but needs to vet them first. Departments and Schools can request to purchase these tools through OIT or can use e-tech funding. The previous Grade Book tool will no longer be secure once EEE is retired, but the data can be exported to Canvas. There has been an issue with multiple ID numbers assigned to UCI students. However, the "Campus ID" is the most important number to use within Canvas.

Concern was expressed regarding integrating Inbox with campus email, and integrating Turn It In. The interface was described as not very intuitive and with small tools and frustrating options. It was suggested that additional training may be effective in relieving these issues. The inability to change an instructor's name (to a preferred name or otherwise) was also an issue.

Members questioned whether messaging in Canvas may be considered official University business, and that perhaps a policy should be put into place regarding communication through the tool. Members stated that the service and responses from OIT have been very helpful.

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UCI Guidance Concerning Disruption of University Activities

The campus has published Guidance Concerning Disruption of University Activities. This guidance can be found at: http://cmstest3.oit.uci.edu/policies/procs/900-23.html, and is being implemented on an interim basis while the campus comment period is underway. This guidance is designed to prevent disruption of University activities, protect lawful access to campus programs and facilities, avoid unsafe behavior, and prevent physical harm to persons or property. Its application does not vary according to the cause of content of a particular protest, speech, or other form of expression.

At its meeting on April 1, 2019, members discussed this issue. The interpretation of "disruption" in the policy was questioned. A clearer definition of what may be "undue interference with any University Activity" (Section A) may be helpful. A definition of what might be a disruption due to an impediment of space was recommended that takes into consideration forms of intimidation and mechanisms than physical barriers that can affect access differentially to specific groups (disabled, age, gender/sexuality, etc.). There was concern that the policy seems too specific and does not allow enough interpretation for issues that may arise in the future.

Members questioned whether this policy would apply to a faculty member speaking outside of the UCI campus. Further clarification was suggested on consequences or discipline for students and other categories of people who may be found in violation of the policy. Members found it unclear regarding how this policy would be administered, and specifically whether faculty were obligated to implement actions and make determinations of a disruption. The concept of antagonism was discussed, and members recommended it be taken into consideration when someone responds to antagonism due to specific personal and/or emotional issues. Members suggest a reporting mechanism for all instances in which this policy is implemented for analysis of any systemic biases in its use.

Review of Free Speech Policy

The campus recently published a new free speech policy that is being implemented on an interim basis. The policy is designed to provide a context in which to understand and ensure free speech at UCI and to form the basis for applying other speech-related policies. At its meeting on April 1, 2019, the Council reviewed this issue.

Members questioned the definition of "compelling university interest" (Section B.2.a.) and who has the authority to make such a determination. Members expressed concern regarding whether potential power differentials or inequalities were taken into consideration in the policy, and found these issues problematic. The policy appears to assume that all individuals and groups operate on a level playing field when it comes to their ability to have their voices heard. Members are concerned that the policy can provide cover for forms of harassment and intimidation, particularly when targeted towards vulnerable minorities. It is recommended that there are clear guidelines that consider when repeated offensive speech that targets specific groups should be regarded and regulated as a form of intimidation. The policy did not seem to take "outsiders" into consideration. As in, when parties are not invited by a campus constituent and seemingly aim to antagonize, end even intimidate, campus populations, particularly vulnerable minorities. Members questioned who might be a relevant authority in managing those practicing free speech and who would oversee student groups in those instances.

Members were unsure what motivated the interim policy, and agreed that some background information, including any parties with a vested interest, would be helpful. Members questioned whether faculty offices may be considered "administrative offices" and whether they are subject to the articles of this policy governing such spaces. Concern was expressed regarding the delineation of areas of free speech, and how parties should be able to tell whether they are in a free speech area or not.

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There was also concern that there may be different standards for faculty, students, and staff regarding interpretation of free speech. Members agreed that the policy should clarify the responsibility of faculty, staff, and teaching assistants in the enforcement or the policy and define a "compelling university interest."

Members found it unclear regarding how this policy would be administered, and specifically whether faculty were obligated to implement actions and make determinations of a violation of free speech. Members suggest a reporting mechanism for all instances in which this policy is implemented for analysis of any systemic biases in its use.

English Proficiency Requirement for Admissions and Teaching Assistantships

The Graduate Division requested an update to the English proficiency requirements for admissions and TAships. The current policy (established in March 2002 and last reviewed in October 2008) requires all non-US citizens (international students as well as permanent residents) who are from countries where English is not the native language to pass an oral English proficiency test to establish eligibility for admissions and teaching assistant appointments. The Graduate Council, in consultation with the Graduate Division, has developed a list of recommended revisions to the policy (which were unanimously approved but are contingent on implementation). At its meeting on May 6, 2019, the Council reviewed these revisions.

There was concern that students are required to pay for their proficiency exams. There was an impression that international students may feel discriminated against based on race. The list of countries used to determine whether a proficiency exam is required is antiquated and problematic due to inconsistent and/or unclear criteria for countries to be added to the list. It is unclear how students who have gone to English-based international schools in other countries are evaluated or exempted. There currently seems to be some inconsistency between departments or Schools whether the proficiency exam is required for TA eligibility.

English proficiency exams are not necessarily a good indicator of teaching ability. It should be clarified whether the proficiency exams should be required for all graduate admissions, or only for teaching assistantships. It was unclear whether the Graduate Council response was proposing modifications to for TA eligibility or also admissions. It was suggested that the proposal be modified to recommend simplified and uniform requirements for all programs with respect to admissions, while allowing some flexibility to programs with respect to the requirements to be eligible for TAships. Members expressed concern that the TOEFL exam and the SPEAK exam measure different standards of proficiency that may not relate to the ability to communicate with undergraduates in the classroom context. ASUCI has recommended that some level of English proficiency requirement be retained for TA's.

It was recommended that departments or other unit should provide funding for proficiency exams. There seemed to be differences in admissions requirements for a J-1 visa versus an F-1 visa regarding proficiency exams. It was stated that the testing center used for the SPEAK test often has issues with noise and that this can have a detrimental impact on students. Ultimately, members agreed that the Graduate Council memo seemed to give recommendations for beginning to harmonize the process.

Upcoming Issues

CTLSE will discuss the International Undergraduate Preparation Program (IUPP), Student Housing and the Academic Performance of Student Athletes.

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Graduate Council (GC)

Graduate Education

Policy on Graduate Program Modifications. Graduate Council established a new timetable for submission of program modifications. For new graduate programs, no major or substantive changes may be implemented until at least one academic year has elapsed following the first matriculation of students in the program. For continuing graduate programs, no major or substantive changes may be implemented for two academic years following the implementation of the most recent changes approved by the Graduate Council. Exceptions will be considered for exceptional circumstances. The new policy was endorsed by the Cabinet effective March 5, 2019.

Graduate Exit Survey Data. The Graduate Division conducts an annual exit survey of master's and doctoral students which includes mental health elements, a growing and critical concern for graduate education. Graduate exit survey results are now forwarded to the Academic Program Review Board for future school reviews.

Graduate Policies and Procedures. Graduate Council endorsed revisions to the graduate policies and procedures to incorporate elements of wellness as proposed by the Graduate Division.

Unpublished Electives. Graduate Council supports the Registrar's Office requirement that annual lists of elective courses that satisfy graduate degree requirements be submitted in a timely manner by graduate programs to the Registrar's Office for publication in the General Catalogue.

English Proficiency Requirements for Admissions and TAships. Graduate Council transmitted its recommendations to update the English proficiency requirements for students from non-native English speaking countries to the Senate. The issue is under review by CEP, CPB, CTLSE, and CUARS.

Review of New Graduate Degree Program Proposals. Graduate Council is proposing revisions to the current review process for new graduate degree program proposals by moving the solicitation and supervision of external letters from the systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs to the campus level. The goal is to enhance the quality and integrity of the review and expedite the review at the divisional and systemwide levels.

Setting Academic Standards for Degree Completion. Graduate Council began a discussion on setting academic standards for degree completion. Presently, not all graduate degree programs set written expectations, at or after advancement to doctoral candidacy, for degree completion for their students. The Council recommends that such expectations be documented and agreed-to by the student and dissertation committee to ensure clarity of goals and timelines, and to promote transparency and accountability.

Discontinuance of Graduate Degree Program

- Stand-Alone Single and Multiple Subject Teaching Credential Program

New School

- Pre-proposal to establish a School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

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Council on Undergraduate Admissions & Relations with Schools (CUARS)

Freshmen Comprehensive Review Process

The Council discussed a pre-proposal by the Office of Admissions on an evaluation of the Freshmen Comprehensive Review Process to investigate whether student preparation for their chosen major could be assessed while still ensuring that we meet campus goals of academic excellence, diversity, and equity. Members deliberated on what an augmented review would look like and how this would be carried out by the existing readers. There was discussion on what information would need to be provided to Admissions if a school chooses to participate.

Upcoming

Currently, the Council continues to look at issues surrounding the UC Transfer Guarantee program. CUARS expressed the need for careful messaging to avoid confusion regarding the new policy. The Council will also review the outcomes of changes to the comprehensive review scoring implemented in 2018-19.

SENATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Memoriam

At the June 6, 2019 Assembly meeting, the following In Memoriam resolutions were shared:

Batchelder, William (1940-2018)
Cornsweet, Tom (1929-2017)
Freeman, Linton (1927-2018)
Peterson, Rita (1931-2018)

Recher, Louis (1928-2018)
Reilly, Robert C. (1941-2018)
Wolfsberg, Max (1928-2018)

If you would like to submit any outstanding In Memoriam resolutions, or have any questions regarding the In Memoriam resolution process, please contact Christine Aguilar at (949) 824-7458 or cmaguil1@uci.edu.

For more information please visit: http://senate.uci.edu/in-memoriam/

The Academic Senate Newsletter is published quarterly during the academic year by the UCI Academic Senate to inform UCI faculty about the activities of the Senate.

Your comments are welcome: senate@uci.edu

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Academic Senate, Irvine Division

Christine Aguilar, Editor

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