

COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY 2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT

COUNCIL OPERATIONS

The Council on Educational Policy (CEP) is charged with considering all academic policy matters related to undergraduate education. The Council's duties are outlined in Irvine Bylaw 85. Associate Professor Melanie Cocco, Biological Sciences, chaired the Council in 2021-22. The Council met eight times during the academic year.

COUNCIL ISSUES

- CEP reviewed the School of the Arts response to the Year 7 Follow-Up to the 2013-14 Academic Program Review Board report – 11/4/21
- CEP reviewed the School of Physical Sciences response to the Year 4 Follow-Up to the 2016-17 Academic Program Review Board report – 11/4/21
- CEP reviewed the External Review Committee Report of the School of Social Sciences and the School response – 12/2/21
- CEP reviewed Irvine Regulation A350.A: The Passed/Not Passed Option – 12/2/21
- CEP discussed Accommodations for Remote Instruction – 2/3/22
- CEP reviewed a proposed revision to Irvine Regulation 440: Adding and Dropping Courses – 3/3/22
- CEP reviewed Irvine Regulations A385: Normal Progress Requirement and 395: Probation and Disqualification – 3/3/22
- CEP discussed a proposal to create a Communication Course Designation – 4/7/22
- CEP reviewed the 2022-27 UCI Five-Year Perspectives – 5/5/22
- CEP reviewed the proposal to establish a fully online B.A. in Business Administration specifically for transfer students – 5/5/22

REVIEW OF DIVISIONAL SENATE ISSUES

Pre-Proposal to establish a School of Population and Public Health – 11/4/21, 5/5/22

At the request of the Senate leadership, CEP reviewed the revised pre-proposal to establish a School of Population and Public Health. The Council noted that the revised version of the pre-proposal adequately addressed concerns identified in the previous review.

Irvine Regulation A350.A: The Passed/Not Passed Option – 2/3/22, 6/2/22

CEP revised Irvine Regulation A350.A: The Passed/Not Passed Option to state that a grade of Passed shall be awarded only for work which would otherwise receive a grade of C- (1.7) or better. The revision will allow students who receive financial aid greater access to take advantage of P/NP to explore new courses.

At the June meeting, the Council discussed concerns raised by members from several schools. The modification to the Passed/Not Passed Option motivated several schools to review their curricular grading logic and in particular, their prerequisite grading requirements. While the

Council viewed the reviews as positive developments, it also necessitated a delay in implementation of the Passed/Not Passed Option modification for one year. The Council opted to allow schools additional time to continue their discussions and prepare for the implementation by delaying implementation of the modification to Fall 2023.

Hybrid and Online Course Learning Policy – 2/3/22, 3/3/22, 4/7/22, 6/2/22

At the request of Senate leadership, CEP and its subcommittees discussed whether existing definitions of course modalities were still appropriate or should be updated. The Subcommittee on Policy and Assessment proposed a draft hybrid and online course learning policy to be considered by the Council. The draft policy centered on a precise percentage of online instruction for hybrid courses and several meeting discussions produced written comments among members. CEP approved a revised hybrid and online learning policy as well as a stand-alone threshold option that could be incorporated into the full policy at a later date.

In June, CEP revisited the threshold option, which was discussed and voted on at the April meeting. As part of the discussion, a proposal to rescind the threshold option was approved. Several members who could not attend the June meeting requested another online vote. A discussion of the threshold option was conducted by email for two days, followed by an online vote. The result of the second vote affirmed the earlier decision to rescind the threshold option. The Council will revisit the topic in the next academic year.

Review of Probation Procedures – 3/3/22

In 2019, the Office of the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning (OVPTL), in partnership with a working group of academic advisors and associate deans for undergraduate education, began a comprehensive review of academic probation processes across campus. The review focused on procedures related to Irvine Regulations A385 Normal Progress Requirement and 395 Probation and Disqualification (specifically focusing on probation, not disqualification). The primary goal of the effort was to move toward consistency in processes across campus while balancing any unique needs of the academic units.

The Senate leadership requested that CEP identify any outcomes or recommendations that may not be in alignment with Irvine Regulations, or any other related Senate policies, if applicable. The Council found no conflicts with existing probation policy and noted that consistency in the process and policy across all schools will make it easier for students to follow academic success plans.

Communication Course Designation – 4/7/22

CEP endorsed a proposal to establish a communication course designation, which will identify a campuswide-sanctioned learning objective for a particular course. Students can then use the designation to curate an informal set of communication-education experiences. Formally, these designated courses can also be used by programs, majors, departments, and other units to intentionally organize student experience, by way of a requirement, and/or by way of a specialization or emphasis.

2022-27 UCI Five-Year Perspectives – 5/5/22

The 2022-27 UCI Five-Year Perspectives (5YP), prepared by the Division of Academic Planning, was submitted to the Office of the President in Spring 2022. Two new undergraduate program proposals were added to the 5YP list: the B.A. in Business Administration for transfer students and the B.A. in Educational Science and History.

Subcommittee on International Education – 5/5/22

At the request of Senate leadership, CEP considered discontinuing the Subcommittee on International Education (SCIE) after one year of dormancy. The Council is capable of absorbing SCIE's workload with minimal impact and approved the discontinuation of SCIE after one year of dormancy.

Irvine Regulation A345.D Course Repetition – 5/5/22

The Subcommittee on Policy and Assessment voted to recommend that an amendment be added to the established course repetition conditions in Irvine Regulation A345.D. Due to the current regulation, students who take honors or majors-only courses and do not pass them are not allowed to take other types of courses to replace them. For students who are no longer part of the campuswide honors program or have switched majors, the result is a difficult and challenging academic situation. The Council recommended an amendment to the regulation that will allow honors and majors courses to be replaced by non-honors and non-majors courses, in the event this should be needed.

English Proficiency Policy for Teaching Assistants and Associates – 5/5/22

Two task forces were convened to develop a new English proficiency policy for appointment of students as Teaching Assistants and Teaching Associates (TAs) during the 2019-20 and 2020-21 academic years. The task forces included representation from CEP, the Graduate Council (GC), the Division of Undergraduate Education, Program in Global Languages & Communication, as well as consultants from the Graduate Division (GD), Academic Personnel, and the Office of Equal Opportunity & Diversity (OEOD). The recommendations from the task forces and subsequent review and approval by the Senate resulted in the current policy for TAs. The resulting policy also informed the revisions to the English proficiency policy for graduate admissions, which GC developed in collaboration with GD last academic year.

The Senate leadership requested that the Council revisit the English proficiency policy for TA appointments in response to a request from GD and reconsider whether there should be a campuswide English proficiency policy for TA appointments at all. Following a thorough discussion, CEP determined that the current testing requirements are necessary to ensure a reasonable minimum threshold for the undergraduate learning experience.

Online B.A in Business Administration Proposal – 5/5/22

The Paul Merage School of Business submitted for Senate review a proposal to establish a fully online B.A. in Business Administration specifically for transfer students. The proposal was routed to several Councils, with CEP serving as the lead council.

The current proposal builds on the Business School's strengths in creating online content and providing a means for students to complete a degree entirely remotely. However, CEP was concerned with a program that would isolate students, whose college experience is already limited, and would then learn by watching interactive videos for two years. In the next iteration of the proposal, the Council requested more information related to bridging the large gap between online courses and online programs. An entire degree experience is more than the sum of merely taking classes, and the degree to which an online program can capture these experiences is unknown. The proposal did not address the numerous known issues with online education for specific populations of students, many of which are the target audience for this program. The Council recommended that the Business School further develop its proposal with these issues in mind, so it can build a truly excellent online degree that can be the gold standard for online education within the UC system.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS

Please see the Catalogue for updated program information. Modifications were approved to the following undergraduate programs:

School of the Arts

- BA in Art
- BA in Music

School of Biological Sciences

- BS in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
- BS in Biological Sciences
- BS in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- BS in Exercise Science
- BS in Microbiology & Immunology
- Minor in Global Sustainability

School of Engineering

- BS in Aerospace Engineering
- BS in Chemical Engineering
- BS in Civil Engineering
- BS in Materials Science and Engineering

School of Humanities

- BA in Religious Studies
- Minor in Religious Studies

School of Information and Computer Sciences

- BS in Computer Science
- BS in Informatics: Health Informatics Specialization
- Minor in Health Informatics

School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences

- BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences

School of Physical Sciences

- BS in Chemistry
- BS in Mathematics: Data Science Concentration, Honors Program in Mathematics

School of Social Ecology

- BA in Social Ecology

School of Social Sciences

- BS in Cognitive Sciences: Honors Program in Psychology and Cognitive Sciences
- BA in Business Economics
- BA in International Studies
- Minor in International Studies
- BA in Language Science
- BS in Psychology

REVIEW OF SYSTEMWIDE ISSUES

Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 478 – 10/7/21

CEP discussed the revisions proposed by the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS). The revision creates Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) Area 7 – Ethnic Studies, an additional IGETC subject area that prospective California Community College (CCC) transfers can fulfill by completing an approved ethnic studies course. The revision also aligns UC with new state legislation requiring the California State University to include an ethnic studies course in its general education curriculum for a baccalaureate degree. The Council endorsed the proposed revision to Senate Regulation 478.

Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 424.A.3 – 2/3/22

The Council reviewed the revisions proposed by BOARS, which would create an A-G ethnic studies requirement for freshman admission to the university by adding Area “H” to the existing A-G requirements. Area H asks that at least one course used by high school students to satisfy another A-G area be an approved course of study (one-half unit) in ethnic studies. The addition of Area H aligns with a new ethnic studies requirement proposed for California K-12 schools without adding to the total number of required courses in the A-G pattern. High schools will have until 2030 to develop eligible courses. CEP noted the proposed revisions were redundant and raised several questions about whether the revisions were needed.

MEMBER SERVICE

CEP members served on special Senate task forces and other campus and systemwide committees this past year.

Daniel Nation represented CEP on the Academic Program Review Board.

Daniel Gross served as representative to the systemwide University Committee on Preparatory Education.

Long Bui served on the Subcommittee on International Education.

Sven Bernecker served on the International Relations Council.

Amanda Holton (Chair), Amal Alachkar, Long Bui, George Farkas, Manoj Kaplinghat, Christine King, Zhiqin Lu, Ian Munro, and Jose Antonio Rodriguez Lopez served on the Subcommittee on Policy and Assessment.

CEP Chair **Melanie Cocco** represented the Council on the Cabinet.

CEP Chair **Melanie Cocco** served as representative to the systemwide University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP).

GUEST PRESENTATIONS

The Council welcomed several guests at meetings throughout the year.

- Joanna Ho, Irvine Division Senate Chair, 10/7/21. Chair Ho thanked members for their service and discussed Senate priorities for the year.

- Jerry Lee, Director of the Program in Global Languages & Communication, 5/5/22.
- Kevin Bradford, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education, Paul Merage School of Business, 5/5/22.
- Gillian Hayes, Graduate Division Dean, 5/5/22.

MEMBERSHIP

Voting Members

Melanie Cocco, Chair, UCEP Representative, Biological Sciences
 Vibhanshu Abhishek, Business
 Amal Alachkar, Health Sciences (Pharmaceutical Science)
 Maura Allaire, Social Ecology
 Sven Bernecker, Humanities
 Liane Brouillette, Education
 Tim Bruckner, Health Sciences (Public Health)
 Long Bui, Social Sciences
 George Farkas, Education
 Amanda Holton, Physical Sciences
 James Jones, Information and Computer Sciences
 Pavan Kadandale, Biological Sciences
 Manoj Kaplinghat, Physical Sciences
 Christine King, Engineering
 Zhiqin Lu, Physical Sciences
 Ian Munro, Arts
 Daniel Nation, Social Ecology
 Hugh Roberts, Humanities (Started 3/7/22)
 Jose Antonio Rodriguez Lopez, Social Sciences
 Amanda Ross-Ho, Arts
 Chen Sheu, Engineering
 Victoria Silver (Ended 2/16/22)
 John Turner, Business
 Jennifer Wong-Ma, Information and Computer Sciences

Ex Officio Members

Elizabeth Bennett, University Registrar
 Michael Dennin, Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning & Dean, Division of Undergraduate Education
 Daniel Gross, Campus Writing Coordinator
 Jutta Heckhausen, Chair, Academic Program Review Board
 Nancy Aguilar-Roca, Chair, Subcommittee on Courses and Continuing, Part-Time, & Summer Session Education

Representatives

Wasila Dahdul, LAUC-I
 Twaha Ibrahim, AGS
 Michelle Joemon, ASUCI
 Jennifer Nguyen, ASUCI
 Anna Palmer, ASUCI
 John Robb, ASUCI

Consultants

Heather Cartagena, Executive Director of Advising

Paul Lampano, Deputy Registrar

Bradley Queen, Director of Composition

Aliya Thomas, University Editor

Annual Report prepared by: Malcolm Bourne, CEP Analyst