

Academic Senate

Winter 2023 Newsletter

April 10, 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE CHAIR ELECT

Dear Colleagues:

During the winter term, the Senate worked on a wide range of topics, including admission policies, residency requirements for undergraduate students, reviews of self-supporting graduate programs, and issues related to teaching and research. I invite you to read on to learn more about our divisional activities and accomplishments.

Looking ahead, I am highly excited about serving with our newly elected and appointed Senate colleagues next year. Please allow me to extend a warm welcome to them and special congratulations to Valerie Jenness on her election as Chair Elect of the Irvine Division for 2023-24.

Arvind Rajaraman, Chair Elect
Academic Senate, Irvine Division

ACTIVITIES BY SENATE COUNCILS

Council on Academic Personnel (CAP)

Updates

CAP will welcome five new elected members for the 2023-24 year, representing the Schools of Education, Humanities, Law, Medicine, and Social Sciences. The CAP membership term is three years and runs from September 1 to August 31.

In addition to meeting weekly to review the large numbers of files that require CAP recommendations, CAP worked with Academic Senate leadership and the Vice Provost for Academic Personnel (VPAP) to develop faculty guidance for the review of academic personnel affected by the academic employee strike, commented on revisions to the inter and intra school FTE transfer procedure, discussed how innovation and entrepreneurship may be better recognized in files, and commented on various 5th year reviews of chairs and deans.

As a reminder, here is helpful information for [school specific Guidelines for Merit/Promotion Evaluation for Professors of Teaching](#) and [CAP's Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#).

Upcoming

The Council will continue working with the Council on Equity and Inclusion (CEI) and VPAP to develop guidance on how faculty may address invisible or informal mentoring efforts in their review files.

Council on Educational Policy (CEP)

Systemwide Revisions to Senate Regulations 610 and 630

Following review and feedback from CEP, the Assembly of the Academic Senate [approved revisions to Senate Regulations 610 and 630](#), updating the residency prerequisite for an undergraduate bachelor's degree. The revisions were proposed by the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) and endorsed by the Academic Council following a systemwide Senate review. The revisions add a new Regulation 630.E, defining a "campus experience requirement" that requires freshman and transfer undergraduates to complete a minimum of six units of in-person courses during a quarter/semester for one year, with an in-person course defined as having at least 50% of instruction occur face-to-face. The Assembly also approved an amendment to the definition of residency in Senate Regulation (SR) 610 to align with the new requirement.

Upcoming

The Council will complete its effort to ensure undergraduate electives are published in the General Catalogue. As some programs did not include a list of elective courses in the Catalogue, CEP requested that they eliminate this practice by providing the requested information.

Council on Enrollment Management and Admissions (CEMA)

Systemwide Review of Proposed Conforming Amendments to Senate Regulations on Admission

CEMA reviewed [amendments to Senate regulations governing undergraduate admission](#) proposed by the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS). The proposed amendments to Senate Regulations 419, 428, 440, 452, 464, and 465 and a new Senate Regulation 467 align the regulations with recent changes which removed standardized tests from the comprehensive review admission criteria. This proposal also includes conforming changes to bring the regulations in line with recent changes to policies on admissions. CEMA members had no concerns regarding the proposed amendments.

BOARS Proposal for A-G Ethnic Studies Requirements

Representatives from the BOARS Ethnic Studies Work Group visited CEMA to discuss their revised proposal for A-G Ethnic Studies. In 2021, the State of California signed Assembly Bill 101 (AB 101) into law, creating the A-G ethnic studies requirement for high school students beginning with the 2029-30 graduating class. BOARS voted unanimously to amend Senate Regulation 424.A.3 (A-G requirements) to require ethnic studies for first year admission. The new proposal provides information on the importance of ethnic studies and revised criteria for approved ethnic studies courses. Representatives from the work group discussed the revised proposal with CEMA members, as well as groups from other campuses, to answer questions and gather feedback before submitting a final proposal for systemwide review.

Council on Equity and Inclusion (CEI)

Updates

In January, CEI submitted its draft guidance for faculty on informal/invisible mentoring to the Council on Academic Personnel (CAP) in hopes that it will help faculty report these activities and facilitate their recognition in the academic personnel review process. CEI looks forward to CAP's response and feedback. The guidance was also reviewed by the Inclusive Excellence Professors. Also related to faculty advancement, CEI Chair Stoeber, in her role as representative to the University Committee on Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Equity (UCAADE), is serving on a systemwide work group on achievement relative to opportunity (ARO). Chair Stoeber introduced this effort to CEI and will share additional information and seek feedback from members as the work group progresses in making recommendations for codifying ARO principles in the Academic Personnel Manual (APM).

The Council continued to receive monthly updates from Rodrigo Lazo (ex officio), Interim Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, on initiatives from the Office of Inclusive Excellence, including updates on the search for a permanent Vice Chancellor. CEI welcomed Dr. Pheather Harris, Director of the Campus Alliance for Minority Participation (CAMP), for a presentation on the NSF-funded project, "Improving STEM Degree Completion with Professional Development to Support Inclusive and Equitable Classroom Practices." Members also engaged Adam Kasarda, Director of the Disability Services Center (DSC), to learn about students' experiences and accommodation needs, DSC services offered, and gaps or challenges in meeting campus needs.

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

ADA Compliance and Accessibility

In 2019, CFW reviewed ADA compliance and accessibility on campus and sent a memo to the Academic Senate Chair and the Administration that outlined many ADA recommendations for the campus. At the January CFW meeting, UCI ADA Coordinator Andrew Berk provided updates on those proposed recommendations as well as future goals. The Council appreciated the efforts of the Division of Equal Opportunity and Compliance (DEOC) regarding its compliance, accessibility, and other campus efforts, specifically the IT Accessibility Workgroup, the Disability Infrastructure Workgroup, and the recent updates to emergency planning and services.

The Council continues to strongly recommend that UCI, as evidence of its commitment to inclusive excellence, go beyond the minimal guidelines of the ADA and work with the UC system to adopt principles of Universal Design in new construction and development of programs and curricula. The Council continues to encourage the development of clear policies and assignment of responsibilities for ensuring compliance. Just as UCI has become a leader in environmentally friendly design through its Green Campus Initiative, CFW believes that UCI can become an exemplar in inclusive excellence on all aspects of disability.

Upcoming Issues

CFW will discuss the [Proposed Presidential Clery Act Policy](#) and the [Proposed Presidential Policy on Responding to Immigration Enforcement Issues Involving Patients in UC Health Facilities](#).

Council on Planning and Budget (CPB)

Three-Year Reviews of SSGDPs

CPB discussed reports by the joint CPB and Graduate Council Subcommittee on Three-Year Reviews for the Master of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (MIE), Master of Software Engineering (MSWE), and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). The Council also considered the follow-up reviews for the Master of Embedded & Cyber Physical Systems (MECPS), Master of Laws (LLM), Master of Legal & Forensic Psychology (MLFP), and the MS in Pharmacology. The Council agreed with the subcommittee's positive assessments and endorsed the subcommittee's recommendations.

Upcoming Issues

The Council will discuss proposed revisions to the [Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-43 Purchases of Goods and Services; Supply Chain Management](#) and the [Presidential Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer](#).

Council on Research, Computing, and Libraries (CORCL)

Reviews for Campus Centers

The Council approved renewal applications for several campus centers including the Long U.S.-China Institute, UCI Ethics Center, and Center for Organizational Research. Applications were evaluated based on a Center's evidence of academic standing through collaborative research potential, ability to obtain funding from national funding agencies such as NSF, NIH, etc. (or other metrics, as appropriate for the discipline), and the likelihood of publications or other activities from collaborative projects. CORCL also assessed whether a Center has sufficient commitments from the participating schools to support its activities and is distinct from other campus centers, ORUs, special research programs, and school centers.

Upcoming Issues

CORCL will consider renewal applications from the Center for Global Peace & Conflict Studies, Samuel M. Jordan Center for Persian Studies, Center for Hearing Research, Center for the Study of Cannabis, Epilepsy Research Center, and Center for Asian Studies.

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

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program

In response to the Council's request that the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) create an annual report, UROP submitted its first annual report (from 2021-22) to CTLSE for review in December 2022.

While CTLSE appreciated the report, the membership would like to see more transparency on how proposals are chosen, what the evaluation process looks like, and whether or not a proposal may be required in a course, as well as additional efforts to expand UROP's outreach to schools. The Council expects to receive the next annual report from UROP in Fall 2023 addressing this feedback.

Future of Teaching

The Council discussed what the future of teaching should look like at UCI in light of changing circumstances and will continue to address and discuss relevant issues and challenges.

Upcoming Issues

CTLSE will discuss the [Proposed Presidential Clergy Act Policy](#) and the UCI Athletics Annual Faculty Advisor Report.

Graduate Council (GC)

Graduate Education

Graduate Policies and Procedures – Conflict of Interest. Graduate Council approved an addition to section F. Conflict of Interest to reflect additional circumstances where conflict of interest may arise during required examinations (comprehensive or qualifying exams, advancement to candidacy, dissertation defense, etc.) and could potentially lead to a perception of bias. The Graduate Division recommends as a best practice that graduate programs have internal policies and procedures that address different types of conflict of interest, not financial in nature, to reduce the likelihood of perceived bias or harm to the student.

Graduate Independent Research Courses. Over several meetings, Graduate Council revisited graduate individual study and research course practices. The Council formed a subcommittee to recommend policies and provide guidance for syllabus development. The Council will present its expanded guidance on independent research courses and teaching-related courses to the Cabinet in the spring.

Graduate Sunset Courses. In January 2023, the Registrar asked that all academic units review graduate courses which had not been taught in the last three or more years and take action to either delete or deactivate the courses, or justify why they should remain active. The Council approved all requests to maintain courses as active.

Discontinuance of Graduate Degree Programs

- M.S. and Ph.D. in Information and Computer Science
- M.S. in Engineering Management

New Graduate Degree Program

- Addition of M.A. in Psychological Science en route to Ph.D. in Psychological Science – under systemwide review

Academic Program Review

- 2021-22 School of Nursing
- 2021-22 School of Social Ecology

SENATE ANNOUNCEMENTS

2023 Academic Senate Annual Election Results

The Irvine Division of the Academic Senate held its annual election from March 1-15, 2023. Please see the election results [here](#). The Senate will conduct a special election for a representative on the Council on Academic Personnel later this spring. Please watch for an announcement.

Open for Nominations – 2023 Academic Senate Distinguished Faculty Awards

The Committee on Scholarly Honors and Awards (SH&A) invites you to nominate colleagues for the 2023 Academic Senate Distinguished Faculty Awards. More information about the awards can be found on the [Call for Nominations](#) and at the Academic Senate Distinguished Faculty Awards [webpage](#).

The deadline to submit nominations is **Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. PT**. Nominations should be submitted [online](#). Please contact [Christine Aguilar](#) with any questions about the submission process.

In Memoriam

If you would like to submit an In Memoriam resolution, or if you have any questions about the process, please contact [Christine Aguilar](#). You may also visit the Academic Senate [In Memoriam webpage](#) for more information.

IRVINE DIVISION BUSINESS

Review of Irvine Division Bylaws, Regulations and Appendices

- **Approved revisions to [Irvine Bylaw 28: Responsibilities and Functions](#) (Cabinet 12/6/22, Assembly 3/9/23)**

[Irvine Bylaw 28: Responsibilities and Functions](#)

The changes bring Bylaw 28 in line with last year's changes to Bylaw 175: Modification of Legislation, making modifications to legislation effective immediately upon approval by the Division or Divisional Senate Assembly unless an alternate date of implementation is approved.

- **Approved revisions to [Irvine Bylaw 158: Call for a Meeting](#) and [Irvine Bylaw 160: Minutes of a Meeting](#) (Cabinet 12/6/22, Assembly 3/9/23)**

[Irvine Bylaw 158: Call for a Meeting and 160: Minutes of a Meeting](#)

The changes align Bylaws 158 and 160 with procedural changes made last year and codify the process of delegating approval of the final Assembly meeting minutes of the year to Cabinet.

- Approved revisions to [Irvine Bylaw 99: Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity, and Academic Freedom](#) (Cabinet 12/6/22, Assembly 3/9/23)

Irvine Bylaw 99: Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity, and Academic Freedom
The changes eliminate subcommittees within CFW.

- Approved revisions to [Irvine Regulation 510: American History and Institutions](#) (Cabinet 3/21/23)

510: American History and Institutions
The changes align Regulation 510 with revisions made to the Pass/Not Pass option approved last year.

SYSTEMWIDE BUSINESS

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 Draft Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs](#)
 - Reviewed at the council level by CEI, CFW, CTLSE, and CPT
- Forwarded comments as part of the [Systemwide Review the Draft Presidential Policy on Sustainable Practices](#)
 - Reviewed at the council level by CPB and CFW
- Forwarded comments as part of the [Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to the Presidential Policy on Developing and Maintaining Presidential Policies \(“Policy on Policies”\)](#)
 - Reviewed at Cabinet level only
- Forwarded comments as part of the [Systemwide Review of Conforming Amendments to Senate Regulations on Admissions](#)
 - Reviewed at the council level by CEMA

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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