

## **COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY 2022-23 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. Professor Manoj Kaplinghat, Physical Sciences, chaired the Council in 2022-23. The Council met nine times during the academic year.

### **COUNCIL ISSUES**

- CEP reviewed the School of Business response to the Year 7 Follow-Up to the Academic Program Review Board report – 11/3/22
- CEP reviewed the School of Biological Sciences response to the Year 4 Follow-Up to the Academic Program Review Board report – 11/3/22
- CEP reviewed the School of Social Sciences response to the Year 1 Follow-Up to the Academic Program Review Board report – 11/3/22
- CEP approved new CIM questions for communications courses – 11/3/22
- CEP approved the discontinuance of the B.A. in Environmental Science – 11/3/22
- CEP edited and reviewed the External Review Committee Charges for the ICS Academic Program Review – 2/2/23
- CEP approved revisions to SCOC procedures and syllabus guidelines – 3/2/23
- CEP received information from the Registrar related to AB 2881, which directs state colleges and universities to provide priority registration for student parents – 1/5/23
- CEP reviewed the External Review Committee Report of the School of Nursing and the School response – 5/4/23
- CEP reviewed the External Review Committee Report of the School of Social Ecology and the School response – 5/4/23

### **REVIEW OF DIVISIONAL SENATE ISSUES**

#### **Unpublished Elective Courses – 10/6/22, 11/3/22, 5/4/23**

The Registrar's Office brought a concerning issue to the Senate's attention: Twenty-nine undergraduate programs currently determine – without Senate oversight – which courses may be considered program electives without publishing all electives in the General Catalogue. Since the academic units have received – or believe they have received – approval by CEP to modify electives and publish changes on their program websites, they will need to identify and formally propose all courses that have not yet been approved by the Senate to count toward program requirements. There was unanimous agreement that electives must always be published in the Catalogue to ensure that students are aware of their programmatic responsibilities and rights. As of the May meeting, each identified program had submitted the required documentation to the Council and the Registrar. The 2023-24 Catalogue will include updated information from academic programs that previously offered unpublished electives.

**Policy for Online Instruction in Mixed-Modality Courses – 11/3/22, 12/1/22, 1/5/23, 2/2/23**

In October 2021, CEP and its subcommittees began in-depth discussions related to hybrid and online learning, and whether our existing definitions of course modalities needed to be updated. Substantial deliberations were necessary and spanned over one calendar year to incorporate faculty feedback on the guidelines for the design of mixed-modality courses. Most importantly, the guidelines included regulations to ensure that students can plan their schedules in advance of the start of the quarter. In December, the Council approved the Policy for Online Instruction in Mixed-Modality Courses, which included a mixed-modality course designation and guidelines for courses that have online components. The proposed policy was discussed at the January Cabinet meeting and viewed favorably. Cabinet members had a few minor comments and suggestions, some of which were eventually incorporated into the final version of the policy.

**Proposed Revisions to Change of Major Policies – 11/3/22, 1/5/23, 4/6/23**

After reviewing several policies related to GPA and Change of Major (CoM), the Council determined that a revision to the CoM policies may increase access to alternate majors early in a student's career and have a significant impact on retention. There was consensus that the specific issue could be efficiently addressed, and the proposed revision to CoM was approved as follows: Students who have completed fewer than 72 course units may change majors regardless of cumulative GPA, provided they meet all other change-of-major criteria for the major. This waiver does not apply to majors that have set cumulative GPA requirements higher than 2.0.

**Follow-Up on Passed/Not Passed Grade Equivalent Items – 1/5/23**

Last year, CEP revised the Passed/Not Passed (P/NP) grade thresholds, and the Registrar identified three Catalogue items that required revisions prior to implementing this P/NP threshold modification: GE IA and IB, the Entry Level Writing Requirement, and the American History and Institutions Requirement. The Council approved revisions to all three Catalogue items. As of Fall 2023, the grade of C- will be equivalent to a passing grade.

**Review of Irvine Regulations A345, A385, and A465 – 3/2/23**

IR A345, A385, and A465 are at variance with systemwide Senate Regulations (SR) 780, 900, and 772. In accordance with systemwide Senate Bylaw 80D, divisionally approved revisions to Irvine Regulations (IR) A345, A385, and A465 since the last systemwide approval need to be routed for systemwide review and approval for compliance. The Council reviewed the regulations and determined that further revisions are not needed and the request for systemwide review may proceed.

**Proposed Revision to Catalogue Requirements for a Bachelor's Degree – 3/2/23, 4/6/23**

Following a systemwide review, the Assembly of the Academic Senate approved revisions to SR 610 and 630, updating the residency prerequisite for an undergraduate bachelor's degree. 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 SR 610 to align with the new SR 630.E. As a follow-on to the systemwide revisions, the Council approved an additional requirement that fifty percent or more of the total quarter units earned at UCI before graduation must be through courses that are not designated as online or mixed modality by the University Registrar, unless exceptions have been granted to a degree program.

### **Subcommittee on International Education – 4/6/23**

Last year, the Senate Chair asked CEP and the Graduate Council (GC) to consider discontinuing the Subcommittee on International Education (SCIE) and directly managing SCIE's duties and workload instead. After placing SCIE in one year of dormancy, the Council considered revising bylaws to codify the Subcommittee's discontinuation. The approved revisions to Bylaw 85 include a provision that one Senate member will serve as the representative to the University Committee on International Education (UCIE) per year. The member will alternate between CEP and GC and bring issues to the Councils as needed.

### **Game Design and Interactive Media Degree Modification – 5/4/23**

At the April SCOC meeting, the Subcommittee reviewed a novel request from Informatics to add a notation to disallow hybrid and online courses from its elective course offerings in the Catalogue. The Subcommittee reached out to the unit for an explanation and opted to table the review pending additional guidance. Due to the new undergraduate degree requirement, the Council determined that a specific Catalogue notation to prohibit hybrid and online courses was not necessary.

### **Proposal to Establish a School of Population and Public Health – 5/4/23, 6/1/23**

At the request of the Senate leadership, CEP reviewed the full proposal to establish a School of Population and Public Health. The proposal included a summary of changes made during development of the proposal, as well as responses to feedback on the pre-proposal from the divisional and systemwide Senate and administration. Aside from a few minor items, the Council was largely satisfied with the proposal.

### **Large Enrollment Online Courses – 5/4/23, 6/1/23**

Following a review of Registrar enrollment records, the Council discussed previously approved online courses with large enrollments and their impact on the campus. The Council may consider whether a policy requiring SCOC approval for courses that meet a high enrollment threshold is needed and will revisit the topic in Fall 2023.

### **Assessment Options for Online Courses – 5/4/23, 6/1/23**

The Council received inquiries from faculty regarding permissible assessment options for online courses. Following a discussion, Chair Kaplinghat tasked SCPA with continuing the discussion and incorporating feedback from the Registrar. Members had differing opinions about whether it was appropriate for fully online courses to also offer an option for in-person assessment, and what rules should apply to such options. The Council will revisit the topic in Fall 2023.

## **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 Dance
- BA in Drama
- BA in Music Performance

### **School of Engineering**

- BS in Civil Engineering
- BS in Chemical Engineering

- BS in Computer Engineering
- BS in Computer Science
- BS in Computer Science & Engineering
- BS in Environmental Engineering
- BS in Materials Science and Engineering
- BS in Mechanical Engineering

### **School of Humanities**

- BA in European Studies
- BA in Global Middle East Studies
- BA in Korean Literature and Culture
- BA in Religious Studies
- Minor in European Studies
- Minor in Global Middle East Studies
- Minor in Humanities and Law
- Minor in Latin American Studies
- Minor in Medical Humanities
- Minor in Jewish Studies
- Minor in Religious Studies

### **School of Information and Computer Sciences**

- BS in Game Design and Interactive Media
- BS in Informatics: Health Informatics Specialization
- BS in Information and Computer Science
- Minor in Bioinformatics

### **School of Social Ecology**

- BA in Environmental Science & Policy
- BA in Social Ecology

### **School of Social Sciences**

- BA in Quantitative Economics
- Minor in Linguistics

## **REVIEW OF SYSTEMWIDE ISSUES**

### **Proposed New Senate Regulation 479 – 10/6/22**

CEP reviewed the new regulation, which would create the California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC). The Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates (ICAS) designed Cal-GETC in response to State Assembly Bill 928 (AB 928), which calls for the establishment of a single lower-division general education pathway that meets the academic requirements for transfer admission from the California Community Colleges (CCC) to both UC and the California State University (CSU).

Cal-GETC is based on the longstanding Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) (SR 478). It aligns UC and CSU transfer requirements without increasing the 34-unit ceiling for the course pattern, as mandated by AB 928, and will take effect for students entering a community college as of Fall 2025. SR 478 will eventually sunset once it is replaced by the new

regulation. The Council was in favor of the proposed regulation and the added clarity it will bring to undergraduate education.

**Proposed Amendment to Systemwide Senate Regulation 630 – 11/3/22**

The Council reviewed a proposed amendment to SR 630 proposed by the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) and endorsed by the Academic Council last year. The amendment clarified the residency requirement for a bachelor's degree by adding section 630.E requiring undergraduates, both freshman and transfer cohorts, to complete six units of in-person courses in a quarter/semester for one year, with an in-person course defined as having at least 50% face-to-face instruction. The amendment also permits divisional Senates to require a higher threshold for in-person course credits per term or for the number of terms in which a threshold applies. Finally, the amendment closes a loophole through which campuses could potentially or inadvertently create fully online degree programs through individually approved online courses. CEP noted the proposed amendment was unclear and raised several unanswered questions. As the issue of defining residency has been reviewed on several occasions, the Council reaffirmed that residency is validated by enrolling in Senate-approved courses and should not necessarily be limited to in-person courses.

**Entry Level Writing Requirement Task Force Report and Recommendations – 11/3/22**

CEP reviewed the report and recommendations of the Academic Council Entry Level Writing Requirement Task Force. The task force was charged to collect and analyze campus Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) data, to consider questions related to ELWR placement, and to develop recommendations for updating SR 636, the UC Entry Level Writing Requirement. Following a review of the data and recommendations regarding campus placement processes for incoming students in post-ELWR writing classes, issues were raised about equity and the cost of tests; it was determined that these issues should be resolved at the individual campuses. The Council was in favor of the principles for student placement as well as the proposed revisions.

**Open Educational Resources – 12/1/22**

The University of California convened a Task Force on Open Educational Resources (OER) and charged it with making recommendations to the Committee of Provosts on the structure of a funded UC-wide OER initiative to lower the cost of course materials for students. The OER Task Force will rely on divisional feedback for its final recommendations. Although Council members were generally in favor of making course materials easier to acquire, important questions surrounding ownership and related faculty costs remained.

**MEMBER SERVICE**

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

**Pavan Kadandale and Hadar Ziv** represented CEP on the Academic Program Review Board.

**Liane Brouillette** represented CEP on the Special Committee to Review the Academic Review Process.

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

**Long Bui** served on the University Committee on International Education.

**Sven Bernecker** served on the International Relations Council.

**Ian Munro (Chair), Sven Bernecker, Jae Hong Kim, Christine King, Allison Perlman, and Maia Young** served on the Subcommittee on Policy and Assessment.

**Zhiqin Lu** served as Chair of the Subcommittee on Courses & Continuing, Part-Time, & Summer Session Education.

CEP Chair **Manoj Kaplinghat** represented the Council on the Cabinet.

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

## **GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

The Council welcomed several guests at meetings throughout the year.

- Georg Striedter, Irvine Division Senate Chair, 10/6/22. Chair Striedter thanked members for their service and discussed Senate priorities for the year.
- Victoria Jones, Chief Global Affairs Officer in the Global Engagement Office, 6/1/23. The Council received information related to a limited UCEAP pilot program called Global Start. The program will allow students to study abroad in year one, and the Council will receive an update on the pilot program during the 2023-24 academic year.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Voting Members**

Manoj Kaplinghat, Chair, UCEP Representative, Physical Sciences

Amal Alachkar, Health Sciences (Pharmaceutical Sciences)

Sven Bernecker, Humanities

Stacy Branham, Information and Computer Sciences

Liane Brouillette, Education

Tim Bruckner, Health Sciences (Public Health)

Long Bui, Social Sciences

Greg Duncan, Education

Pavan Kadandale, Biological Sciences

Jae Hong Kim, Social Ecology

Christine King, Engineering

Zhiqin Lu, Physical Sciences

Ian Munro, Arts

Daniel Nation, Social Ecology

Allison Perlman, Humanities

Jose Antonio Rodriguez Lopez, Social Sciences

Amanda Ross-Ho, Arts

Chen Sheu, Engineering

John Turner, Business (Ended 3/31/23)

Rajeev Tyagi, Business (Started 4/3/23)

Maia Young, Business

Hadar Ziv, Information and Computer Sciences

**Ex Officio Members**

Elizabeth Bennett, University Registrar

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

Daniel Gross, Campus Writing & Communication Coordinator

Jutta Heckhausen, Chair, Academic Program Review Board

**Representatives**

Wasila Dahdul, LAUC-I

Reginald Gardner, AGS

Zachary Griggy, ASUCI

Valentina Phung, ASUCI

Ricardo Gonzalez, ASUCI

**Consultants**

Heather Cartagena, Executive Director of Advising

Paul Lampano, Deputy Registrar

Bradley Queen, Director of Composition

Aliya Thomas, University Editor

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