

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION
NOVEMBER 30, 2021**

To be received and placed on file:

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) held eleven meetings this academic year. Committee members and the Chair also attended several meetings associated with undergraduate program reviews. Much of the Committee's work, such as the careful study of long and complex documents, was completed outside of these meetings and through e-mail if needed in between meetings. The Chair attended meetings of Executive Council and provided updates to the Committee at each meeting from issues discussed at the local level. The Chair, the Vice Chair Goldberry Long and the representative to the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) Juliann Allison, at the request of the administration and Chair of the Division, attended additional meetings and served on ad hoc committees including the Summer Session Administrative and Academic Boards and COVID-19 Senate Workgroup.

This year, the Division was well represented on UCEP by Juliann Allison who kept CEP and the Division informed about various items and Systemwide developments of interest to the Committee.

A primary responsibility of CEP is undergraduate program reviews. During the academic year, four CEP subcommittees were established to conduct the external undergraduate program reviews of Entomology (April 12 to 15, 2021), Liberal Studies (February 8 to 11, 2021), Plant Biology (April 19 to 22, 2021), and Statistics (March 29 to April 1, 2021). All four of the external reviews were conducted remotely on Zoom. One CEP subcommittee was established to conduct the internal reviews of the International Relations Minor and Labor Studies Minor, and the Committee voted to close both reviews with the Final Findings and Recommendations Reports due to the long range goals of the recommendations. The Chair of CEP organized and attended Action Implementation meetings with the Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education (VPDUE), College Dean and Associate/Divisional Deans, and the Department Chairs for the reviews conducted in the previous academic year for Biochemistry, Ethnic Studies, and Middle East and Islamic Studies. CEP was satisfied with Ethnic Studies and Middle East and Islamic Studies' responses to the Committee's Findings and Recommendations and closed their reviews after the Action Implementation meetings. CEP implemented an Action Implementation Plan for Biochemistry. CEP was satisfied with Biology and Neurosciences responses to their Action Implementation Plan and voted to close both reviews with a request for an update in January 2022 to address the recommendations impacted by COVID-19.

The Committee will conduct external reviews remotely on Zoom of the undergraduate programs in History, Public Policy, and the University Writing Program and internal reviews of the Speculative Fiction and Cultures of Science minor and Urban Studies minor next academic year. An information session was held for the programs scheduled for an external review on April 9, 2021 to help the programs prepare for their upcoming reviews.

The Committee updated the Procedures for Undergraduate Program Reviews to include a satisfaction survey for recently graduated students, update the self study requirement for assessment to reflect the current campus process, and clarify that review teams will be comprised of at least two external reviewers.

The following is a list of open undergraduate program reviews that CEP is working to close:

<i>AY Review was Conducted:</i>	<i>Program Reviewed:</i>	<i>Current step:</i>
2019-2020	Biochemistry	The program's response to the Action Implementation Plan is due from the program in November 2021

2020-2021	Entomology	CEP will finalize the Final Findings and Recommendations Report in Fall 2021.
2020-2021	Liberal Studies	CEP will finalize the Final Findings and Recommendations Report in Fall 2021.
2020-2021	Plant Biology	The program's response to the Preliminary Findings and Recommendation Report is due in Fall 2021.
2020-2021	Statistics	CEP will finalize the Final Findings and Recommendations Report in Fall 2021.

Another important function of CEP is to review and comment on all issues relevant to undergraduate education and occasionally on issues with a more general nature. When warranted, these discussions result in new regulations and policies. Topics discussed and/or acted upon by the committee in consultation with other Senate committees and/or the Administration throughout the year have included:

- The Committee approved exceptions to the 180-unit graduation requirement for nine students from CHASS. The Committee remains concerned with the increase of requests for exceptions to the 180-unit graduation requirement received this year.
- The Committee reviewed the proposed revisions to Senate Regulation SR 630 and noted concern with the weakened requirement of residency in the home campus and were concerned that this could negatively impact the identity and specificity of each UC campus.
- The Committee reviewed the proposed revisions to Senate Regulation SR 544. Some members were supportive of the proposed changes as they would allow students to take courses not readily available at their home campus. However, other members noted concern that the revisions do not provide guidelines for who receives petitions and how they will be processed.
- The Committee reviewed the Online Undergraduate Degree Taskforce Report and noted concern about whether a student can receive a UC quality degree with an online program and the potential reliance on adjunct faculty to instruct courses for the program. The Committee recommended that guidelines be set for any proposed online undergraduate degrees to ensure that the programs are close to the same quality as on campus degree programs.
- The Committee reviewed the amended proposal to modify UCR's Comprehensive Review Process for Admissions and noted concern with the difficulty of providing feedback on the matter with such a limited amount of time and information and found it difficult to support the proposal. Members noted concern with the proposal's reliance on AP courses for admissions, as there is evidence that areas and school districts have unequal access to AP courses, which prevents them from being a fair and equitable metric. Members were supportive of giving more weight to A-G courses or the ELC.
- The Committee reviewed the Academic Council Teaching Evaluation Taskforce Report and recognized that the current form of teaching evaluations has a number of intrinsic biases. The Committee supports the recommendation that student evaluations be supplemented with forms of peer evaluation and teaching portfolios. The Committee was supportive of measures suggested in recommendations to mitigate biases and misinterpretations in student teaching evaluations. The Committee recommended that student teaching evaluations provide qualitative information on teaching effectiveness as opposed to a single numerical score.

- The Committee reviewed the Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) process and requested additional information from the Registrar regarding the use of CIP.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the draft policy for the administrative aspects of managing fees charged by Self Supporting Graduate Degree Programs and recommended that the policy be updated to include specifics on how the funds will be allocated and managed.
- The Committee reviewed the Innovative Learning Technology Initiatives (ILTI): Recommendations for Future State Report and were supportive of decentralizing the ILTI program and recommended that campuses establish testing centers. The Committee did not support the recommendation for UCOP to provide best practices for the instruction of online courses and instead recommends that UCOP defer to faculty for how to best instruct their courses. Due to a concern with the inclusion of outdated data in the report the Committee recommended that the review ILTI be halted until evaluations of the current remote mode of instruction are evaluated.
- The Committee reviewed the UCR report for Information Literacy and provided feedback to the Associate Provost and Director of Evaluation and Assessment.
- The Committee reviewed a proposal for the development of multi-instructional modes for courses offered in Summer Sessions present by the Director of the Center of Teaching and Learning.
- The Committee reviewed the Committee on Faculty Welfare's Campus Climate Survey and noted additional climate concerns between faculty and students that were not include in the survey results. The Committee recommended that the current climate of the campus be evaluated to assess the impact of remote instruction. The Committee affirmed that the evaluation of issues of climate and collegiatly will continue to be assessed as part of the undergraduate program review process.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the recommendations found in the UCR Academic Advising Review Report. However, the Committee noted concern that the report did not address the issue of whether advising should happen at the department/program level or college level, which has repeatability been a discussion item during undergraduate program reviews.
- Upon consultation with the Associate Provost and Director of Evaluation of Assessment on learning outcomes the Committee recommended to the Committee on Courses that learning outcomes be included on course syllabi.
- The Committee reviewed the Ad Hoc Committee on the Evaluation of Faculty Teaching's Final Report and noted concern that the report does provide a plan to implement the recommendations. Additionally, the Committee recommended that questions be added to evaluations to measure students' preparedness for courses, understanding of course materials, and documentation of academic integrity.
- The Committee reviewed the Campus Safety Taskforce Report and did not support the report. Concern was noted that the report does not provide alternatives to the current practices of law enforcement on campus nor does it include a discussion of steps to improve current policies and practices. The Committee recommended that the report be updated to include clear benchmarks for success, an action plan that would improve the campus climate with stronger evidence-based strategies, and allow faculty from across the colleges and schools to have an equal role in reviewing law enforcement policies.

- The Committee reviewed the draft strategic plan and did not support the plan as it does not include specific, concrete benchmarks that explain how the proposed goals of the draft document will be achieved and implemented. The Committee recommended that an implementation plan be developed to document how the broad goals presented in the plan will be achieved and how success will be evaluated.
- The Committee reviewed the revised proposal for the formalization of Division status for Undergraduate Education and recommended that the proposal be updated to clarify the number of campuses whose Divisions of Undergraduate Education are both administrative and academic units, include a compelling reason for the change in status, and document if the proposed Division will expand academic offerings including the creation of courses.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposed revision of Senate Regulation SR 610.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposal to change the name of the Graduate School of Education to the School of Education.
- The Committee reviewed the proposed rubric for the written communication core competency and was not supported of the Office of Evaluation and Assessment's proposed rubric. The Committee recommended that a rubric be developed to accommodate variations between disciplines and proposed the use of the VALUE rubric as an alternative.
- The Committee reviewed the draft Presidential Campus Safety Plan and recommended that the proposed plan be updated to include options to have the campus police force not carry firearms unless facing comparable weaponry. The Committee also noted concern that the proposed plan does not fully address the safety of students and faculty on campus, especially during the evening hours.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposed change to Bylaw 6.4.4.1.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the renewal of the partnership agreement between UCR and RUSD on the Riverside STEM Academy (RSA).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and impact on instruction and undergraduate education at UCR, the Committee reviewed and provided consultation on numerous issues and modifications and suspensions to regulations and policies. Additionally, the Chair worked with the Graduate Council Chair and Committee on Courses Chair to draft modifications and suspensions to bylaws and an information document for faculty for remote instruction. The Committee's actions included:

- The Committee reviewed the President's proposed curtailment program and noted concern that the proposal provides insufficient details on how the proposed program will be implemented so as to guarantee the proposed goal of a reduction in salary so that the highest paid faculty receive the largest percentwise reduction in salary and that the cuts be distributed throughout the academic year. The Committee was supportive that the proposed reductions are temporary.
- The Committee reviewed the proposed Presidential Policy for the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program and noted concern that the proposal did not include a process for uniform, verifiable documentation. Concern was also noted that the policy does not how unvaccinated

faculty, students and staff who do not fall in the exception category will be prevented from accessing campus. Lastly, concern was noted that the requirements for non-medical exceptions were vague, and the Committee recommended that they be revised to be more restrictive.

- The Committee reviewed the proposed remote options for Fall 2021 and noted support for the choice of teaching modality fall under the purview of the instructor. The Committee supported not extending remote options beyond the already planned percentage of remote-only courses and recommended that students be notified that they can take advantage of online classes in the UC system with the prior approval of their major's departments and programs.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposed modifications to the Grading System Regulations and Graduate Division Regulations through Fall 2021 in response to COVID-19.
- The Committee reviewed the recommendations for masking in classrooms and the majority of the Committee was supportive of a mask mandate for students. Members did have muted support for the mandate for fully vaccinated instructors due to the challenges of speaking and being heard clearly with a mask. Some members were opposed to the mandate in light of the campus vaccination requirement. Lastly, members recommended that if masks are made mandatory, that the Campus clearly message the requirement to the campus community and provide details on how the mandate will be enforced

CEP also took up a number of matters related to majors, minors and other undergraduate programs. The Committee's actions included:

- The Committee updated the CEP Guidelines for the Establishment of New Undergraduate Programs and Guidelines for Proposed Changes to Undergraduate Programs to note that new program proposals and program changes might require further review by accreditation bodies.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the revised proposal for a combined degree program for a BA and MPP in Public Policy.
- The Committee reviewed a revised proposal to transfer the pre-business program from CHASS to the School of Business. The Committee remained concerned with the requirement for an internship and students' ability to participate in the requirement and recommended that the School work to provide funding for students' expenses related to the internship.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposal for a BS/MS Combined Five Year Degree Program in Statistics.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposal for a BS/MS Combined Five Year Degree Program in Microbiology and subsequent revised proposal.
- The Committee reviewed and supported proposed changes to the College Board AP Exam Credit for Environmental Sciences and Statistics.
- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposal for a BS in Robotics Engineering but did recommend that the proposal be updated to respond to the concerns and suggestions included in the letters of support.

- The Committee reviewed and supported the proposal to transfer the Cell, Molecular, and Developmental Biology Undergraduate interdepartmental program to the CNAS Department of Molecular, Cell, and Systems Biology.
- The Committee reviewed and the pre-proposal for a Department of Black Study and look forward to receiving the full proposal for the department.

The following UNEX Proposals for Undergraduate Certificates were reviewed and approved by the Committee:

- Specialized Achievement Award in Diversity and Multiculturalism
- Specialized Achievement Award in General Studies
- Specialized Achievement Award in STEM
- Professional Certificate in Early Childhood Education Teacher
- Professional Certificate in English Spanish Interpretation and Translation

The following proposed changes to curriculum were discussed, approved and reported to the Division:

Approved Curriculum Changes from BCoE:

BS in Chemical Engineering
 BS in Computer Engineering
 BS in Computer Science
 BS in Computer Science with Business Applications
 BS in Electrical Engineering
 BS in Environmental Engineering
 BS in Materials Science and Engineering
 BS in Mechanical Engineering
 BS + MS in Mechanical Engineering

Approved Curriculum Changes from BCoE & CNAS:

BS in Data Science

Approved Curriculum Changes from BUSINESS:

BA in Business Administration
 Minor in Business Administration

Approved Curriculum Changes from CHASS:

Administrative Studies Majors
 BA in Anthropology
 BA in Art History
 BA in Art History/Administrative Studies
 BA in Art History/Religious Studies
 BA in Chinese
 BA in Classical Studies
 BA in Comparative Ancient Civilizations
 BA in Comparative Literature
 BA in Creative Writing
 BA in Dance
 BA in Economics/Administrative Studies
 BA in English
 BA in French

BA in Germanic Studies
BA in Global Studies
BA in History/Administrative Studies
BA in Japanese
BA in Languages
BA in Latin American Studies
BA in Liberal Studies
BA in Linguistics
BA in Media and Cultural Studies
BA in Middle East and Islamic Studies
BA in Philosophy
BA in Political Science/Administrative Studies
BA in Psychology
BS in Psychology
BA in Psychology/Law and Society
BA in Religious Studies
BA in Russian Studies
BA in Sociology/Administrative Studies
BS in Sociology/Administrative Studies
BS in Sustainability Studies
BA in Theatre, Film and Digital Production
Minor in Anthropology
Minor in Art History
Minor in Chinese
Minor in Creative Writing
Minor in Global Studies
Minor in Labor Studies
Minor in Latin American Studies
Minor in Media and Cultural Studies
Minor in Medical and Health Humanities
Minor in Middle East and Islamic Studies
Minor in Religious Studies
Minor in Speculative Fiction and Cultures of Science

Approved Curriculum Change from CHASS & CNAS:

B.A. & B.S. in Neuroscience

Approved Curriculum Changes from CNAS:

BA & BS in Biology
BS in Chemistry
BA & BS in Cell, Molecular, and Developmental Biology
BS in Earth Sciences
BS in Earth Sciences – Change of Major Criteria
BA & BS in Entomology
BA & BS in Entomology – Change of Major Criteria
BA & BS in Environmental Sciences
BS in Geology
BS in Geophysics
BA & BS in Microbiology
BS in Mathematics for Secondary School Teachers
BA & BS in Plant Biology

BA & BS in Statistics
BS + MS in Entomology
Minor in Plant Biology
Minor in Statistics

Approved Curriculum Changes from GSoE:
BA in Education, Society and Human Development
Minor in Athletic Leadership
Minor in Education

Approved Curriculum Changes from SPP:
BA in Public Policy
Minor in Public Policy

The Committee's members are to be commended for their close attention to a broad spectrum of matters concerning educational policy and undergraduate education and their genuine concern for student welfare.

Stefano Vidussi, Chair
Goldberry Long, Vice Chair
Juliann Allison, Representative to UCEP
Bruce Babcock
Gareth Funning
Elodie Goodman, Committee on Courses Representative
Jang-Ting Guo
Isgouhi Kaloshian
Cathy Lussier
Morris Maduro
Lorenzo Mangolini
Ashish Sood
Bryan Wong
Fariba Zarinebaf
Changcheng Zhou
Mufida Assaf, ASUCR Representative
Cody Simons, GSA Representative