

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 4, 2022

PRESENT: L. Mangolini, Chair; A. Litt, Vice Chair; E. Schwitzgebel, UCEP Rep.; W. Beyermann; M. Casselman; W. Chen; P. Gorecki; K. Kinney; A. Lee; C. Takeshita; G. Stanley; Z. Zhao

ABSENT: E. Goodman; E. Kozlova, GSA Student Rep.; M. Lang (on leave)

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00AM.

The Committee reviewed and voted to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2022 meeting.

The Committee Chair updated the Committee on data received regarding UCR student unit loads. The Chair recommended that the Committee discuss this issue with the Interim Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education (IVPDUE) who will be attending the meeting.

The University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) representative Eric Schwitzgebel informed the Committee that UCEP is to meet next on Monday, November 7, 2022. UCEP major area of focus this Fall has been online education. Representative Schwitzgebel shared that the UC is not supportive of online degrees but is considering online majors for which UCEP is developing a principal document. Representative Schwitzgebel confirmed that online majors are programs that include 50% or more of the content online.

The Committee reviewed the revised proposal for a Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity in CHASS and Committee Member Chikako Takeshita recused themselves from the discussion as they are a proponent of the department. The Committee had a robust discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed new department. Members in support of the proposal highlighted the potential for the new department to attract students to UCR, while those not in favor expressed concerns about whether dedicating new staff and faculty resources to the department in the current budgetary environment would negatively impact undergraduate education by taking resources from existing departments in CHASS. Members not supportive of the proposed new department recommended that the program be developed as an interdisciplinary program. Five members voted to support the proposal, four members voted against the proposal, one member abstained, and four members were not present for the vote. The Chair will summarize the Committee's feedback and vote in a memo to the Senate Chair that will be sent to the Committee for final review by email.

The Committee welcomed IVPDUE Ken Baerenklau to the meeting to discuss the role of the VPDUE on campus and potential collaborations with the Committee. IVPDUE Baerenklau advocated for more collaboration with the Committee and informed the Committee of the following issues that the group could potentially collaborate on: credit hours; transfer student admissions; growing Summer Sessions; teaching evaluations; academic integrity; advising reform. The IVPDUE requested to attend Committee meetings to give updates on the issues. The Committee discussed with the IVPDUE the issue of unit loads and UCR's low yield rate. The

Committee concluded the discussion with the IVPDUE and noted that they will continue to invite IVPDUE Baerenklau to meetings when their consultation and perspective is needed.

The Chair informed the Committee that the Action Implementation Phase for the Public Policy undergraduate program review was closed after the program demonstrated significant progress was made to address the findings and recommendations resulting from the undergraduate program review.

The Committee voted to approve the proposed changes to the Undergraduate Program Review Procedures to document the process for the postponement of reviews and the option for reviews to be conducted remotely or in-person.

The Committee reviewed the follow up response from Neuroscience to the undergraduate program review that was conducted in AY 18-19 and noted concern that the response appeared to be identical to the document submitted in January 2022. The Committee requested that Neuroscience clarify if any progress was made to the recommendations resulting from the review since January 2022.

The Committee reviewed the name change proposal for the Department of Religious Studies and was supportive of the proposed name change to Study of Religion. The Chair will draft a memo noting the Committee's support to the Senate Chair.

The Committee reviewed the proposed System-wide policy on vaccination programs and noted concern that the proposal does not fall under the Committee's purview of undergraduate education. The Chair will draft a memo to the Senate Chair noting that the Committee has opted not to provide comment as the proposal does not fall under the Committee's purview.

The Committee reviewed the R'Courses Governing Board's annual report for the AY 21-22 and accepted the report with no further questions.

The Chair discussed with the Committee the possibility of including a student survey in the undergraduate program procedures for non-major students who are enrolled in a program's service courses to evaluate their assessment of the course offering. The Committee discussed how the feedback could be utilized in the review of undergraduate programs. The Committee was supportive of exploring the proposal at future meetings.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:55AM.

Approved: December 2, 2022

Prepared by: Beth Beatty