

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 5, 2025

PRESENT: A. Ditta, Chair; J. Weems, Vice Chair; G. Brewer; UCEP Rep; M. Casselman; S. Kolluri J. Meyer; J. Nájera; A. Orsdemir; V. Tsotras; S. Welles; E. Stapely, Ex Officio

GUESTS: C. Wang, ASUCR Rep.

ABSENT: A. Haskel; R. Khan; D. McCole; D. Nagel; N. Reddy; D. Ruiz, GSA Rep.

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

The Chair gave the Committee an update on matters discussed at Executive Council.

The Committee reviewed and voted to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2025 meeting.

The Committee's representative to the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) gave an update on the matters discussed by UCEP at the December 1, 2025 meeting.

The Chair reported to the Committee on the outcome of the Action Implementation meetings held for the Chemistry and Media and Cultural Studies undergraduate program reviews conducted last year. The Chair informed CEP that both reviews were closed after satisfactory reports at the meetings.

The Committee reviewed and voted to support the Final Findings and Recommendations Report from the Creative Writing undergraduate program review conducted last service year.

The Committee reviewed proposed changes to the Procedures for Undergraduate Program Reviews to address a recommendation from WASC for periodic review of course curriculum. The Committee voted to approve an update to the self-study requirements to include syllabi from at least one lower division course and one upper division course and to include the optional requirement for course syllabi for additional courses that programs may find important for the review team's information. Additionally, the Committee voted to approve a change to the procedures to request that programs consider candidates for review teams who will be able to advise on UCR's unique student population.

The Chair informed the Committee of additional feedback received from a program scheduled for review this year who were hesitant to provide the self-study requirement of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) statement due to the current political climate, which the Committee had discussed at the November 7, 2025 meeting. The Committee remained in support of retaining the DEI requirement in the Procedures for Undergraduate Program reviews.

The Committee reviewed the administration's response to the Senate Committee feedback to the proposed initiative for UCR 2030 to increase the enrollment of California resident undergraduate

students. The Committee observed that there is value in the growth of undergraduate students, but the proposal did not mention the time period of which the growth needs to occur. Concern was also noted that the initiative implies that UCR will need to grow indefinitely, which is not sustainable. The Committee recommended that any growth in the student body needs to be managed so that it is tenable. The Committee also recommended that additional information regarding how students will be academically prepared to succeed and be supported while at UCR is necessary for evaluating the proposal including more specific ideas for providing students with academic support that they need especially in math and writing courses. Lastly, the Committee appreciated the comments about physical classroom space but still had major concerns that UCR would be able to keep pace with the demand for space. The Chair will summarize the Committee's feedback and recommendations in a memo to the Senate Chair, which will be sent to the Committee for final review by email.

The Committee reviewed the response to the Senate Committee feedback to the proposed policy for archiving Canvas courses and observed that the process still appears to be burdensome for faculty as they will still need to request access to courses and wait for permission to be granted. The Committee recommended that the process be refined to save time and resources. The Chair will summarize the Committee's feedback and recommendations in a memo to the Senate Chair, which will be sent to the Committee for final review by email.

The Committee reviewed and voted to support the proposal to rename the Department of Psychology to the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. The Chair will send the Committee's support to the Senate Chair.

The Committee reviewed the R'Courses Program's annual report for the 2024-2025 academic year and had no comments.

The Committee reviewed and voted to support a proposed change to Senate Regulation 6.14 to grant an exception to the regulation for students enrolled in the prison education programs. The Chair will submit the proposed change for consideration of Divisional approval.

The Committee invited the Registrar and Associate Provost to provide consultation to assist the Committee with developing an implementation plan for Senate Regulation 6.14. The Associate Provost informed the Committee that WASC's definitions of distance education courses differs from UCR's definition. The Committee was also reminded of WASC's policy that if more than half of an academic degree's curriculum can be offered online, then the program is considered an online program. The Associate Provost informed the Committee that the Registrar is currently tracking online courses at UCR and currently there are several programs that students can take over half of the curriculum online. The Associate Provost has initiated the process with WASC to approve these programs as online. The Registrar proposed a revision to the initially submitted implementation plan to streamline the definitions of courses to include three designations: online with no in-person components, online with in-person components, and in-person. The Registrar noted that the Committee on Courses need to update their policies to change the definition of online courses and the Committee on Courses Chair and CEP Ex Officio member informed the Committee that a subcommittee of the Committee on Courses has been formed to propose this

change. The Registrar will send CEP an updated implementation plan to include the recommendations from the Committee's discussion.

The Associate Provost reminded the Committee that there is currently no incentive for students to complete teaching evaluations and proposed that students who complete teaching evaluations be given priority registration for the next academic quarter to increase the completion rate of teaching evaluations. The Associate Provost confirmed that the priority registration would not leap frog other priority registrations. The Committee asked if other Divisions offer incentives to students and the Associate Provost offered to find out. The Committee observed if the incentive is successful then all students will have priority registration. Concern was also noted that the incentive could potentially penalize students and the Associate Provost noted that priority registration could be given for a percentage of evaluations completed by students. The Committee was generally supportive of the proposed idea for priority registration for students who complete a percentage of teaching evaluations. The Associate Provost will send a proposal to the Committee for a pilot program.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:56 AM.

Approved: January 9, 2026

Prepared by: Beth Beatty