UC RIVERSIDE

Academic Senate

Professor Kenneth Barish
Division Chair

October 29, 2026

To: Committee on Courses
Subramanian Balachander, Chair

Re: Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction

Dear Committee on Courses Colleagues,

The Executive Council discussed the proposal and related Senate committee feedback during the October 26, 2026 meeting.

Based on the feedback received, Council did not endorse the proposal for inclusion on the Division agenda noting important clarification is needed from the Committee on Courses.

In summary, while some committees are supportive, others raise questions and request clarifications on topics such as distance education thresholds, hybrid/online course rules, final exam timing, mezzanine courses, and administrative impacts on instructors.

Should a revision be drafted, please submit it to my attention with a courtesy copy to Senate Director Cherysa Cortez with [New Business] included in the subject line.

Best regards,

Ken Barish, Chair
Academic Senate

Cc: Senate Analyst Beatty
Senate Director Cortez

Enclosures

UC RIVERSIDE | School of Education

10/14/2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate
and Cherysa Cortez, Executive Director of the UCR Academic Senate

From: Kinnari Atit, Ph.D., Faculty Chair of the School of Education Executive Committee

Subject: Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction

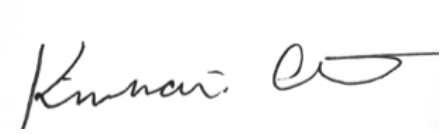
The SOE Executive Committee reviewed the Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction. Comments/feedback were solicited at our executive committee meeting and via email.

The SOE FEC requests clarification on the following items:

1) On the impact of the 50% or more contact hours being reclassified as distance education. How does this impact hybrid course approval, fieldwork, practicum?
2) What is the implication of the expanded documentation, monitoring, and deadline requirements on associate instructors? The shifts seem reasonable, but the administrative and scheduling implications need to be further clarified.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Sincerely,



Kinnari Atit
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee
Associate Professor
School of Education
University of California, Riverside
Email: kinnari.atit@ucr.edu

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UC RIVERSIDE | School of Medicine

October 16, 2026

TO: Ken Barish, PhD, Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Adam Godzik, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

SUBJECT: **[Campus Review] (Proposal) Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction**

Dear Ken,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the Proposal: *Online Undergraduate Course Access for Graduate Students via UC Online Portal.*

The committee is of the opinion that this is mainly a technical modernization of course policy. The main effects for SOM students would be clearer regulation of hybrid/online courses. The courses with ≥50% of primary instructional contact online would formally count as distance education and require explicit approval and "regular and substantive interaction", and new rules permitting **mezzanine courses** that combine upper-division and graduate students.

Yours sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Adam Godzik 10/16/2026 | 4:41 PM PDT
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Adam Godzik, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine

UC RIVERSIDE Academic Senate

GRADUATE COUNCIL

October 19, 2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Richard Hooley, Chair
Graduate Council

RE: [Campus Review] (Proposal) Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction

The Graduate Council reviewed the proposed changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction at their October 15, 2026 meeting. The Council was broadly supportive of the updates but would like clarification on whether completing a task associated with a recorded lecture counts as student interaction, and how non-compliant existing courses will be transitioned so they are in line with these new guidelines.

UC RIVERSIDE Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

October 12, 2026

To: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Jennifer Nájera, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Committee on Courses proposed Changes to Course Policy

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) reviewed the Committee on Courses proposed changes to course policy at their October 9, 2026 meeting. The Committee was generally supportive of the proposed changes. The one issue that Committee members questioned was whether mezzanine courses could be double counted for credit.

UC RIVERSIDE

College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 16, 2026

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: Rachel Wu, Chair
CHASS Executive Committee

RE: Proposal: Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction

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The CHASS Faculty Executive Committee reviewed the Proposal: Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction. The committee approved the proposed changes, with the caveat that the withdrawing department should be required, not just "strongly encouraged", to notify the cross-listing departments.

UC RIVERSIDE | CNAS Executive Committee

October 16, 2026

TO: Kenneth N. Barish, Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Quinn McFrederick, Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

SUBJECT: [Campus Review] Proposal: Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction

Prof. Barish,

The CNAS Faculty Executive Committee reviewed this proposal at the October 14th meeting.

The FEC discussion indicated that there was a need for clarity on the changes related to final exams (I.6.f.ii) and the impacts that will have on courses where final exams are completed in the final week of the course (week 10), rather than on the scheduled final exam day (finals week). We recommend referencing existing policies prohibiting the use of scheduled course meetings during week 10 for administering final exams.

Sincerely,



Quinn McFrederick, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

October 16, 2026

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: Evangelos (Vagelis) Christidis, Chair
BCOE Executive Committee

RE: Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction

The BCOE Executive Committee met on October 16th, 2026. Regarding the Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction, the committee has no comment.

UC RIVERSIDE Academic Senate

Committee on Information Technology

October 15, 2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Boerge Hemmerling, Chair
Committee on Information Technology

Re: Proposed Changes to the Committee on Courses General Policies for Courses of Instruction

The committee discussed the proposed changes and had no comments.