



Academic Senate

GRADUATE COUNCIL

July 6, 2020

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Jason Stajich, Chair
Graduate Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Stajich".

Re: Formalization of Division Status for Undergraduate Education

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal for the Formalization of Division Status for Undergraduate Education. The Council recognizes the work of the Office of Undergraduate Education has an 'academic angle' to it but would like to clarify some points before supporting the proposal.

The Council would like to seek clarification on whether the designation as a Division would duplicate some of the academic efforts that are currently being handled by individual departments. For example, it is mentioned that if the Division of Undergraduate Education is established, they can propose new courses such as WR 123 to replace ENGL 123. In this case, what would happen to ENGL 123 and the faculty who currently teach it? Would we end up with similar or even duplicate courses offered by different entities on campus, or would we need to replace and consolidate all the current courses and personnel involved with these courses (and other workshops, etc.) to the Division of Undergraduate Education? If the latter, there may be budgetary implications of such shifts across campus.

It was also unclear if consultation has occurred with various departments which will be impacted by this structural change. For example, was the English department consulted? The Council had strong reservations about this restructuring before impacted programs and departments are contacted and their input is included in the proposal.