




Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

October 15, 2020

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Stefano Vidussi, Chair 
Committee on Educational Policy

RE: Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation SR 544

The Committee reviewed the proposed revisions to Senate Regulation SR544 at their October 2, 2020 meeting and had a robust discussion.

Some members were supportive of the proposed revisions as they were written and noted that the changes will help and support students. Specifically, the proposed revision could benefit students by allowing them to take courses not readily available at their home campus.

Other members noted concern that the proposed revisions do not provide guidelines for who receives petitions from students to exceed the upper limit of non-home campus courses that can be counted towards graduation and/or enrollments and the process for submitting the petitions. Specifically, some members pointed out that the proposed revision seems not to exclude the possibility that students may petition for the approval of a course concurrently offered by their home campus, creating the risk of petitions aimed not at maximizing students' options, but expedience. Also, members expressed concern that, lacking guidelines, different units may have differing opinions on how sparsely these petitions should be approved, leading to an uneven decision process. Concern was also noted regarding the increased workload of the individuals who will receive the petition requests. The Committee recommended that the revisions be updated to include clear guidelines for students that describes who they submit the petitions to and also provides the options available to students.