COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

May 17, 2023

To: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Lorenzo Mangolini, Chair
      Committee on Educational Policy

RE: Proposed Revision to R’Courses Policy

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) reviewed the proposed revisions to the R’Courses policy at their May 5, 2023 meeting. Some members were in favor of opening R’Courses to graduate students, as this would provide a good opportunity for professional development. Still, many members expressed serious concerns about the proposal. The committee noted that the letter of support from the GSA dates back to 2019, and that an updated letter should be included in the proposal. Members were concerned about how the inclusion of graduate students would go against the “peer teaching” model at the core of R’Courses offerings, since undergraduate students would not perceive graduate students as peers. Member were concerned about how instructing R’Courses could potentially challenge the balance of the students’ work, research, and progression in degree programs. Finally, serious concerns were raised about the apparent conflict between the concept of instructing R’Courses without compensation and the recently negotiated union contract.