March 3, 2023

TO: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
    Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: John Kim, Chair
        CHASS Executive Committee

RE: [Systemwide Review] Regulation Change: Systemwide Senate Review of
    Proposed Conforming Amendments to Senate Regulations on Admission

Having reviewed the memo and related documents regarding proposed changes to UC Senate regulations on undergraduate admissions, we had the following questions and concerns:

● What are the consequences of changing the policy for non-normative students, including California residents who did not complete high school (e.g., those who may have earned a GED and would have supplemented their undergraduate admissions application with standardized test scores) and non-resident applicants (domestic or international)?
  ○ How will admissions staff determine that a non-resident applicant compares favorably to a qualified California resident? The current language suggests admissions staff are unable to use standardized tests to determine comparability.
  ○ Furthermore, while the proposed added language for non-resident applicants in Paragraph 467 provides some guidance for evaluating non-resident applications, there is no similar guidance for California resident applicants who may have been previously covered by the proposed-for-deletion guidance in Paragraphs 440 and 452. Do California residents who have a high-school equivalent degree and demonstrate college readiness (as measured e.g., by scholastic aptitude tests) have no ability to enter the University of California as Freshmen?

● The “Background” section states that “standardized test scores shall not be considered” while Chapter 2, Article 1, Paragraph 419 states that “applicants for freshman admission do not NEED [emphasis added] to submit standardized test scores.” If standardized test
scores will indeed not be considered in the admissions process, applicants should be counseled not to include them in their applications.

- The “Background” section states that language was included prohibiting “preferential treatment” in the admissions process. This appears to be undermined by Chapter 3, Paragraph 467 stating that “non-resident domestic and international students [...] should compare favorably to California residents.”