February 3, 2023

To: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: Peter M. Sadler, Chair  
Committee on Undergraduate Admissions

Re: Systemwide Review – Proposed Conforming Amendments to Senate Regulations on Admission

The Committee on Undergraduate Admissions reviewed the Systemwide Senate Review of Proposed Conforming Amendments to Senate Regulations on Admission and committee members considered how the Admissions Regulations had been aligned with the removal of the SAT/ACT requirement. The committee welcomes the consolidation of several policies into one admissions policy. The primary concern is that the language become simpler and more direct, especially to help an important subset of likely readers; that is, potential applicants, their families and their counselors.

The amended regulation could more clearly state the legitimate uses of SAT/ACT scores that remain and may benefit applicants. The same information would also assist UC academic advisors who must place admitted students into appropriate English and Math courses.

The current statement: “Applicants for freshman admission do not need to submit standardized test scores for admission to the University” is imprecise and open to too many interpretations. Some students may falsely believe that not submitting scores disadvantages them in admission or scholarship consideration. Others may not realize that submitting scores may help them with subsequent placement in course sequences like English and Math.

The UCOP website on admissions requirements is much more informative:

"UC will not consider SAT or ACT test scores when making admissions decisions or awarding scholarships. If you choose to submit test scores as part of your application, they may be used as an alternative method of fulfilling minimum requirements for eligibility or for course placement after you enroll."

If there are reasons not to incorporate a similar explanation into the regulations, the committee recommends at least providing a link to it.

https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/examequirement/#:~:text=Am%20I%20required%20to%20submit,of%20scholarships%20for%20any%20applicants.