November 14, 2023

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

FROM: Wesley Leonard, Chair  
CHASS Executive Committee

RE: Proposed changes to the Guidelines for Admission by Exception (AxE)

The CHASS Executive Committee acknowledges the new policy on admission by exception (AxE), which was changed to comply with a request from the State Audit to ensure there is no improper influence on the admissions process by campus partners. While we agree with the overall changes, we have two comments/concerns:

1. With the removal of the departments’ ability to recommend AxE, we are concerned how this policy change will affect international students (and, to a lesser degree, out-of-state students) who have gone through different systems of secondary schooling and do not have the same credentials as students from California. We encourage the addition of guidelines that outline AxE procedures for international students.

2. The document outlines a recusal process for voting members on special review committees in case of a conflict of interest, but does not define what that would comprise. Some clarification on this point would be welcome.