

## **COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION Annual Report 2022-23**

To: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

The Committee on International Education (CIE) advises the Senate and campus administration on matters related to international education on the UC Santa Cruz campus, initiates studies and reviews, and assists in the formulation of policies regarding international education at UC Santa Cruz. This year, CIE reinstated its policy of reviewing Global Seminars from the previous summer (2022), worked with Global Engagement (GE) to introduce changes in approval process for new Global Seminars, helped GE strategize on priorities for the implementation of the American Council on Education (ACE) internationalization report, advocated for the interests of international students vis-a-vis a variety of documents (the Leading the Change reports, the design of the new graduate funding model, and the WASC re-accreditation process), and continued to lobby for the establishment of a campus international student center. One considerable challenge was that, with the exception of fall quarter, CIE only had four (rather than the normal six) faculty members and occasionally had trouble maintaining the necessary quorum to conduct its business. As in the previous academic year, no undergraduate student representative was appointed to this committee.

### **I. Review of Global Seminars and of the Seminar Proposal and Review Process**

CIE was pleased to see evidence of several very successful Global Seminars in summer 2022, especially considering the ongoing complications of COVID. Based on faculty and student assessments, the global seminars in Guatemala, France, Korea, Spain, and Ireland clearly succeeded in leveraging their specific international locations and providing UC Santa Cruz students with novel opportunities to meet learning objectives that are not available on campus. With respect to the two global seminars that were less successful, our review of the report provided by GE, alongside correspondence from GE over summer 2022 about the food study seminar in Berlin, suggest that the problems that emerged in this seminar (including the need for the sign off of the relevant department chair should there be any last minute changes in the instructor for Global Seminars) have largely been addressed, and that future offerings of the course, in this or another location, should run more smoothly given the changes implemented by GE. With respect to the least successful global seminar, CIE concurred with GE's decision to temporarily suspend this seminar until such time as its planned activities are better aligned with course objectives.

In addition to providing feedback on these seminars, CIE also proposed to GE a series of changes for future reviews. First, although we understand that we cannot review Student Experience of Teaching Surveys (SETS) directly (and that low student responses are a major limitation), our sense is that we would really benefit from having access to some quantitative data culled from student responses. This would enable us to more easily compare seminar offerings in a given summer, but also to detect changes across time in the relative effectiveness of any one seminar. Second, because our mandate is to focus on whether global seminars meet academic objectives and leverage their international locations, it would be helpful if we could review Global Engagement's report alongside the syllabi and course learning objectives that we reviewed when we approved the seminars. Given the small numbers of global seminars per summer and our sense

that this is unlikely to change anytime soon due to GE staff constraints (which prevents this from being an onerous exercise for CIE), members of the committee also decided that we would like to review all seminars each fall (rather than only reviewing them every three years).

With respect to the approval process for new global seminars, CIE proposed and GE accepted the idea of shifting the schedule that we have followed in the past. Rather than issue the call for new seminar proposals every fall quarter with faculty asked to submit proposals in winter quarter, the decision was made to issue the call in spring quarter in order to give faculty the summer to work on their proposals, with a new deadline of early fall quarter. This shift from a “fall-winter” to a “spring-fall” sequence was also appealing because it bought GE some breathing room as it has been difficult to run the current global seminars at existing staff levels (without taking on the planning of lots of new seminars). As a result of this change, CIE had no new global seminar proposals to review in winter 2023, which led to a much lighter workload in this quarter. In spring 2023, CIE was asked to conduct an off-cycle review of a new seminar at the University of Padua on biochemistry and the nutrition of sport, which it viewed very favorably as a welcome addition to the roster of global seminars.

Before issuing the call for new global seminar proposals in spring 2023, which unfortunately did not go out until the very end of spring quarter, CIE also approved further suggested changes from GE to clarify that faculty do not have to nail down all logistical aspects of their intended seminar in order to submit a proposal (out of concerns that this often introduced rigidities and perhaps dissuaded faculty from proposing seminars). CIE also agreed with GE’s request to change the language in the call for proposals that governs eligibility requirements to stipulate that continuing lecturers are eligible to propose global seminars so long as they have the approval of their sponsoring department. Very few faculty attended the workshops that GE held over the summer of 2023 for professors considering proposing a new Global Seminar: only one professor attended each of the workshops held on July 13 and July 17.

## **II. Campus International Student Center**

CIE continued to advocate for the establishment of a campus international student center, again without success. In the Fall quarter we learned that our request to receive space in the resource call over the summer was not successful. In the winter quarter, CIE unsuccessfully lobbied the committee that has been working to re-design the building on Quarry Plaza that has housed the Bay Tree Bookstore in the hope that some space might be set aside for the international student center. In spring quarter, CIE supported the proposal for the creation of student lounges that emerged from the undergraduate-focused working group in the Leading the Change strategic academic planning exercise, and proposed that at least one of these lounges should be devoted to international students.

## **III. International Enrollment and Recruitment**

CIE annually consults with Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management (AVCEM) Michelle Whittingham on international recruitment, admissions, and enrollment related issues. This year, the committee was interested in learning more about efforts to further diversity the international students who are enrolling at UC Santa Cruz, with diversity understood to refer not just to the range of countries sending students, but also socio-economic and other forms of

diversity. Given the tremendous cost of attending UC Santa Cruz as a foreign student (approximately 73.5k), CIE learned that boosting the diversity of sending countries might be easier to achieve than socioeconomic diversity, and brainstormed with the AVCEM about ways to conduct outreach beyond Asia (the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is the only non-Asian country of the top ten countries that send students to UC Santa Cruz). AVC Whittingham shared information on international undergraduate enrollments and targets, recruitment/yield plans, and collaboration with Global Engagement on recruitment efforts. AVC Whittingham also shared some demographic data by gender and division, provided after the consultation and in response to questions during the consultation. With the AVCEM, CIE also discussed ways of boosting international student enrollment more generally, which has been significantly hampered by the elimination of standardized tests from the admission process at the University of California.

#### **IV. International Student Welfare and Success**

The committee's interest in international student welfare and success imbues many aspects of CIE's work, as is evident in other sections of the report. In January, the committee consulted with Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies (VPDGS) Peter Biehl in a focused conversation on international graduate student education and success. While oversight of aspects of student success are shared by different divisions on campus, consultation with the VPDGS provides a critically important view into international graduate student experiences. CIE focused its questions to VPDGS Biehl on his plans and vision for international graduate education, including the question of how to address the issues raised by 25 department chairs who are seeking changes that would allow international students to access their relocation stipends in the fall in a more timely fashion (to help them secure rental properties in Santa Cruz prior to the beginning of Fall quarter). VPDGS Biehl also took some time to discuss the ongoing work of the Implementation Task Force for Inclusive Excellence in Graduate Education. CIE expressed its strong concern that the new funding model being developed by the task force must continue to include funding for the waivers of Non-Resident Tuition for international students, which have done so much in the past decade to enable many departments at UC Santa Cruz to diversify their programs beyond domestic students.

#### **V. CIE Representation**

Chair Eaton served on the systemwide Senate UCIE committee.

#### **VI. CIE Consultations**

In addition to the consultations discussed above with VPDGS Biehl (2/7/23) and AVCEM Whittingham (5/30/2023), CIE also consulted with—Vice Chancellor for the Division of Student Success (VCSAS) Akirah Bradley-Armstrong (3/7/23) to discuss productive ways to collaborate and promote the success and welfare of our international students, including how to move forward with plans for an international student center. Additionally, CIE met quarterly with VPGE Hughey and AVP George (11/1/22, 1/10/2, 5/16/23) on various topics related to international education. In April 2023, Chair Eaton accompanied AVP George on a visit to three universities in the U.K. (Queen's University Belfast, Bristol and Leeds) with whom UC Santa Cruz hopes to partner in the future, both through increased student mobility and sustained research interactions between faculty and graduate students working on similar topics (which was identified as a campus priority in the ACE internationalization lab report).

## VII. Local and System-wide Issue Review

In addition to the issues identified in earlier sections of the report, the committee reviewed and commented on the following issues and/or policies:

- Proposed Revisions to Systemwide Senate Regulation 630 (October 31, 2022)
- WASC Themes Proposal Draft (March 8, 2023)
- Leading the Change (Strategic Plan) Draft Reports (April 12, 2023)
- Review of ITF Report (May 15, 2023)
- Leading the Change (Strategic Plan) Final Report (June 6, 2023)

## VIII. Continuing Issues for CIE in 2023-24

- Continue to engage with Global Engagement on a model of collaboration that enhances communication and shared governance on issues related to international education
- Continue to engage in conversations about strategic planning process outcomes and implementation planning, including investment in internationalization initiatives within campus budget constraints;
- Continue monitoring and collaborating with GE on efforts for an international student lounge/resource center
- Continue collaboration with administration (and CCI as needed) in review of global seminars
- Monitor campus efforts (Graduate Division, Student Success, Undergraduate Education) to address issues of international graduate and undergraduate student welfare and success

Respectfully submitted,

### COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

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