

February 28, 2012

VPDUE Hughey  
Chancellor's Office  
Kerr Hall

**RE: Class Times Proposal (Second Round)**

Dear Richard:

Attached are the responses from two Senate committees that reviewed the second round of the *Class Times Proposal*. I transmit to you the comments in their entirety from the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP), and the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB).

Thank you for the opportunity to advise on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Gillman', written in a cursive style.

Susan Gillman, Chair  
Academic Senate  
Santa Cruz Division

**Enclosures**

January 11, 2012

Susan Gillman, Chair  
Academic Senate

**RE: Revised Classroom Time Slot Proposal**

Dear Susan,

CEP members discussed the revised course time proposal from VPDUE Hughey's letter of November 28, at our December 7 meeting. We understand that SEC discussed this proposal briefly and will be requesting more data and other information on choices before committees respond. We agree that discussion before the receipt of additional data is premature. Therefore, members decided to wait and not comment at this time. We support SEC's request for more data and would be happy to comment on the time slot proposal once the additional information is available.

Sincerely,

/s/

Eileen Zurbriggen, Chair  
Committee on Educational Policy

cc: Senate Committee Analysts

January 18, 2012

Susan Gillman  
Academic Senate Office

**Re: Response to the Class-Schedule-Change Proposal**

Dear Susan,

While CPB appreciates the VPDUE's responsiveness to Senate feedback on the original class-schedule-change proposal, additional data are needed before any such proposal can be fully considered. We support the decision of Senate Chair and SEC plan to respond to the VPDUE's proposal with a request for (a) additional information and (b) more time for Senate committees to consider the proposal. CPB feels strongly that it is not appropriate to use the time pressure arising from the need to schedule classes in 2012-13 to rush through this proposal. We agree with SEC that the proposal is precipitous, and we look forward to continuing the conversation.

The motivation for the class-schedule-change proposal has been a perception of insufficient large-lecture time slots for the campus, but CPB finds anecdotally that medium-size classrooms (60-180 seats, say) may already be in short supply: we have received reports of departments cutting classes that could readily accommodate 180 students down to 120 because they could not find 180-seat rooms.

The additional data needed include:

- Campus wide, how many large classes (above 180 seats) in 2012-13 will be cut to medium size (60-180 seats), or not offered at all, because of the unavailability of large-lecture time slots? Moreover, forecast this unmet demand yearly, starting in 2013-14 and continuing until the campus is likely to have constructed new large-lecture classrooms.
- Campus wide, how many medium-size classes in 2012-13 will be cut to smaller enrollments (cut by 50-100 seats), or not offered at all, because of the unavailability of medium-size-lecture time slots? Again, forecast this unmet demand yearly, starting in 2013-14 and continuing until the campus is likely to have constructed additional medium-size-lecture classrooms.

The best way to obtain these data may be via a survey of all campus departments. CPB makes the following additional comments.

- The proposal to cut all class offerings to 150 contact minutes per week, as a way to free up more large-lecture time slots, is deeply ill-advised; this would require the re-planning of all curricula offered at UCSC. Such restructuring would place a burden not only upon individual instructors, but also upon Senate committees, departmental, divisional, and campus-wide, responsible for curricula. Moreover, if such a plan suggested a move from

5-unit courses to 4-unit courses, the full-time enrollment requirement of 15 credits would require undergraduates to enroll in 4 courses per quarter, rather than 3, which would require larger enrollments in classes.

- The proposal to cut between-class transit times from 20 minutes to 15 minutes on MWF, as a way to free up more large-lecture time slots, requires additional comment from Departments and (especially) students. There is widespread anecdotal evidence that (a) the current 15-minute transit times on TuTh are (sharply) insufficient to allow students to cross campus as needed in moving from one class to another, and therefore (b) students respond to this by leaving TuTh classes 5 minutes early and arriving 5 minutes late, adversely affecting the ability of instructors to make full use of the two 105-minute TuTh slots.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lynn Westerkamp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Lynn Westerkamp, Chair  
Committee on Planning and Budget