

Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid
February 26, 2010
Minutes

Present: Bruce Cooperstein, Raoul Birnbaum, Andy Fisher, Juan Poblete, Donald Wittman, Amy Weaver (NSTF), Alex De Arana-Lemich (SUA), Alma Natalia De Castro (SUA), Pamela Edwards (ASO)
Absent: Chris Edwards, Faye Crosby, Bakthan Singaram, Robert Singleton (SUA)
Guests: AVC Michelle Whittingham, Associate Director Michael McCawley, Adviser Kori Calubaquib

Chair's Announcements

A request was received from SUA Chair Matt Palm asking CAFA to co-host, with Admissions, a forum for students on the new "Entitled to Review" (ETR) admission program, effective 2012. The proposed dates were during finals week. No action was taken at this time.

Professor Faye Crosby will serve as chair pro tem for the month of April.

Action Items

CAFA unanimously agreed to make the Bridge program voluntary effective Fall 2010 (EOP students admitted by Admission by Exception, AbyE, will not be required to participate in Bridge). CAFA is very interested in further collaboration with Student Affairs on this and is committed to making the Bridge experience an effective one. We currently review 100% of EOP status applications for Bridge. This cohort has already taken the step to participate in EOP. Both AbyE and EOP students will be invited to a redesigned experience.

With the current attrition rate at 50%, design of the new program is critical. We want to ensure a successful program before soliciting students. Professor Juan Poblete volunteered to represent CAFA on the Student Affairs' redesign committee. A recommendation was made to include Bridge student participation in these discussions.

Non-Resident Statement

Targets are established for UC frosh and transfer admissions, but not for non-resident students. The issue is capacity. If there is additional capacity then offers could go to non-residents. The UC goal is 90% resident and 10% non-resident students.

UC is currently overenrolled by 15,000 students. A 10% rate for non-residents is years out for UCSC. The campus would need a sustained campaign to create visibility in order to reach that rate. CAFA could revisit this if we approach 10%.

Essay Timeline

UCSC send essay notices to the top 1000 entering frosh, 280 essays were returned (20%). One third answered question one, the rest chose question two. We made 200 offers, including 30 for frosh Regents scholars. Each CAFA faculty reader will receive 62 essays to score. Each essay will be read twice.

Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS)

Professor Poblete reported on the February 5 BOARS meeting. BOARS is finalizing its five-year Comprehensive Review report comparing selection criteria for the various UCs and is working on strategy for explaining ETR to the public along with details on changes to Eligibility in the Local Context and the use of wait lists. CAFA will draft its own ETR document to address common misunderstandings and establish campus discourse.

The use of online education at high schools is increasing. Professor Poblete is on the subcommittee reviewing classes to determine if they satisfy the A-G list and to put quality controls in place.

Admissions

Last year, President Yudolf asked campuses to implement wait lists for the incoming frosh class. There was the option to opt in or out of the first year (Los Angeles and Merced were the only ones who did not participate). UCSC sent waitlist notices to 1000 students denied admission for the fall (frosh only) or those who missed our cutoff.

Under a pilot program this year, UCI sent notices to 700 students who were not accepted for admission. Of those, 300 accepted a place on the wait list. Irvine had to go to out to all students on their wait list after missing their SIR target.

Students can be on multiple wait lists, but can only SIR to one campus. This creates more unpredictability for the student and campus (the trickle down impact is unknown until we see the methodology of the other campuses). The waitlist trial will be evaluated next year.

UCLA Read Sheet

The redacted copy of the UCLA read sheet is based on the Berkeley model for Comprehensive Review. Both campuses take data from the UC high school file and add info from their own admissions experience. This allows the campus to look at applicants in context of their educational environment (are AP courses available?).

The Task Force is looking at developing a systemwide read sheet to capture data which would allow readers to go through applications quickly. A third of UCSC students come from the Los Angeles area (the largest feeder for all UCs) and one third are from the Bay Area.