

Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid
November 20, 2009
Minutes

Present: Bruce Cooperstein, Juan Poblete , Faye Crosby, Andy Fisher, Alex De Arana-Lemich (SUA), Chris Edwards, Amy Weaver (NSTF), Donald Wittman, Bakthan Singaram, Robert/SUA, Pamela Edwards (ASO)

Absent: Christina Farro (SUA)

Guests: Associate Director Michael McCawley, Director Ann Draper, Advisor Kori Calubaquib

Announcements

Chair Cooperstein provided a brief recap of issues from the Senate Executive Committee's (SEC) November 17 meeting. SEC has a Memorial to UC President Yudolf and a resolution on Child Care on the agenda for afternoon's Senate meeting at the Stevenson Event Center.

November is the month when students apply to UC. UCSC may need to lower criteria standards to meet our admissions target. There was a similar situation in the early 90's when UCSC put out the message that we would accept all eligible students. Concern was expressed that we are missing out on the middle income population and data reflects only those who follow through (not students who don't apply).

The November 13 minutes were approved with changes.

Due to a teaching conflict, winter meetings will start 15-minutes earlier, from 8:45-10:45am.

BOARS

Professor Juan Poblete, who is serving a second year as CAFA's representative to the UC Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS), provided a brief recap of the October 2 and November 13 meetings. BOARS completed their report to Regents on the new SATs and will start a systemwide report on Comprehensive Review (the last report was in 2003). Shared review under UC's new Entitled to Review (ETR) admissions program, effective 2012, is meant to enhance comprehensive review by sharing some data systemwide. BOARS Chair Sylvia Hurtado is available to meet with the committee in January on ETR, to review the measures used and discuss the projected impact on diversity.

Educational Partnership Center/UC College Prep (EPC/UCCP) Merger Work Group

EPC Director Carrol Moran is leaving UCSC for a similar position at UC Office of the President. UCP, which started 10 years ago under Chancellor Karl Pister, partnered with Admissions for outreach. UCP has 72 staff (some have served as application readers) and 85 percent of their budget comes from federal or private funding. Many UPC students are from underserved high schools and receive admission points for participating in college prep classes. Early academic outreach, such as SAGE, COSMOS, are also affiliated with them. UCCP serves the state of California and has eight staff. Both groups have collaborated on actions such as the approval of classes for UC eligibility.

The Merger Work Group, which will advise Vice Chancellor McGinty, has met twice. Professor Singaram is CAFA's representative on the Work Group, but there is no member from the Senate Committee on Preparatory Education (CPE). Questions raised include how do we directly benefit locally from the work of these two groups, if the merger is due to budget problems – what would be eliminated, what are the synergies and cost savings other than rent (the missions are so different)? The committee supports UCP's outreach work to students and their families. Discussion will continue and CAFA will make a recommendation to SEC in January.

Overviews

Associate Director McCawley provided policy and past campus practices on Admission by Exception (AbyE), Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and the Bridge Program. Bridge, which started as a summer program, is now a year long academic preparation and support program for frosh. There are typically 2700 EOP students on campus at any one time. CAFA supports EOP and will consider changes to Bridge.

AbyE is controlled at the campus level. Each year CAFA reviews data and confirms its AbyE goal for the following year. No greater than six percent of the incoming class can be AbyE. The EOP class determines the number of Bridge students the campus can afford (if CAFA decides on no AbyE then there would be no Bridge program either).

In the past Special Action Admission was used to bring in large numbers of underrepresented students and had been as high as 12 percent. The percent was reduced to compliance levels within three years.

As a system we are nowhere near the 6% ceiling. BOARS encouraged campuses to use the full six percent and CAFA agreed. UC Davis does not take any AbyE students in order to make more offers to eligible students and UC Riverside started using AbyE after they became a Division One campus.

Current members are mixed on support for AbyE and it is not clear what the shape of AbyE will be after ETR is implemented in 2012. Discussion will continue at another meeting.

Comprehensive Review Data Subcommittee

Professor Wittman, chair of the Comprehensive Review Data subcommittee, reported on his summer meeting with Analyst Mary Masters to review data for predicting second and third year success, and how transfer students compare to the general population. Wittman looked at transfer students in three junior level classes – economics, chemistry and literature, however not all students take these classes for a grade. In general the literature students did better than those in chemistry.

Due to social circumstances and family financial issues, it's common for students from low API schools to work more than they should and/or to travel home to work. Members would like to review second, third and fourth year data on the Bridge cohort. According to data from Institutional Research and Policy Studies there were 176 Bridge students in 2006-07. As more and more students go to the community colleges, this will change our process.

Members agreed to try a different methodology for the next round of data requests to Institutional Research, the STARS program, Bridge and Transfer Center.

Winter Quarter Consultations

In addition to its quarterly consultation with Student Affairs Vice Chancellor McGinty, CAFA will invite the BOARS' chair to consult on ETR and Learning Center Director Holly Gritsch De Cordova and Executive Director of Retention Services Pablo Reguerin to consult on the Bridge Program. CAFA will consider consulting with the Director of Services for Transfer and Re-Entry Students (STARS). The Communications subcommittee, not the full CAFA, will meet with the UCSC's Web Presence and Services Program staff. VPDUE Ladusaw will be invited spring quarter to discuss honors.

Policy Review

CAFA wrapped up discussion on the Draft Academic Programs and Units Policy and Procedures that continued from the previous meeting. Overall members felt the process would be more transparent. The draft response will be circulated by email for comment.

Response to the UC Different Fee Proposal was unanimously negative. Although the proposal had lots of data, not all issues were addressed. Members felt the proposal would open the door for differential treatment based on the fee paid, funds to the coffers for certain campus and not go back to the programs. The draft response will be circulated by email for comment.