Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (CAFA)
MINUTES
June 3, 2015
307 Kerr Hall, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Present: Minghui Hu (Chair), Jean Fox Tree, David Helmbold, Megan Moodie, David Smith, Ted Warburton, Yi Zhang, Joy Hagen (NSTF), Justin McClendon (Undergraduate Student Rep)

Absent: Mark Carr, Lila Blackney (Undergraduate Student Rep), Sophia Mauricio (Undergraduate Student Rep)

Guests: Richard Hughey (Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education), Michelle Whittingham (AVC Enrollment Management), Michael McCawley (Admissions Director)

Member’s Items
Chair Hu announced that he is organizing a welcome event for parents of International students, to be hosted by the Chancellor on September 8, 2015. He noted that this will be the first event of its kind on campus. There are some technical issues to consider, as the planning for the event will need to coordinate with the cancellations process. AVC Whittingham raised that not many International parents may actually accompany their students in the fall, and commencement may be great time to involve parents.

The systemwide release of admit data now looks to be late June.

Finally, Chair Hu announced that at the systemwide BOARS meeting of June 5, 2015, the first part of the meeting will be a joint meeting with the CSU Admission Advisory Council. He reported that a primary agenda focus will be transfer pathways. He also noted that UCs have a significant overlap with CSUs in terms of applicants, and transfer applicant overlap may be significant as well.

Status Report on SIRs: CA, OOS, INTL
AVC Whittingham provided a status update on Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) data for fall 2015.

CARC Membership
Two members from CAFA serve on CARC. Chair Hu has asked for a third member this year to join them. Member Moodie agreed to serve.

Adjudication Review
Admissions Director McCawley provided the committee with a set of raw data to supplement his overview of adjudication review for this admissions cycle. Member Helmbold provided a report based on the raw data for committee review, and walked the committee through a summary analysis. He noted that adjudication review seems to be having an effect. Those scoring a Holistic Review Score (HR) of 4 got adjudication if SSI was too low or if SSI was too high, above the 4 band adjudication was triggered if SSI was too low, and below the 4 band adjudication was triggered if SSI was too high. Members deliberated the question: is adjudication review doing the job it was intended to do? One member raised that about half of the adjudication reviews are overriding the initial HR score in the direction of the SSI index. The committee discussed the need to establish adjudication thresholds in August, and the committee decided to delegate that task to the Data subcommittee.

Guidelines for an MOU for 3+1+1 (sometimes called 3+2) Programs
Senior International Officer Ferguson developed a set of guidelines for an MOU to establish 3+1+1 programs for International Students, and requested CAFA preliminary, informal review of his proposed
guidelines. SIO Ferguson attended the CAFA meeting to provide an overview and explain the guidelines. He informed the committee that he has been in discussion with the Economics Department, and the department is already working with Nanjing Audit University (NAU) to launch a 3+1+1 program. The department would like to launch this program in fall 2015. SIO Ferguson proposed that the CAFA approve a pathway for admissions.

CAFA members deliberated this issue at length and raised many questions about the specifics of the program, approval process, and appropriate level of review. Given the timing of the request, and the lack of campus guidelines, CAFA decided that it is not possible to approve the admission of prospective students at the undergraduate (the first+1) level for fall 2015.

CAFA members, however expressed support for the creation of the Economics pipeline, and recommended the development of campus guidelines for establishing 3+1+1 programs which will guide Economics and other departments in the development of like partnership programs.

The 3+1+1 program as proposed would have two components, the first is the establishment of an MOU and pathway to bring students from the sending university to UCSC (host university) as international visitors. These students spend one year finishing up coursework and will receive the bachelor’s degree from their sending institution. They will be treated as “non-degree seeking” students and will pay full NRT. The students will spend the second year in a master’s program, assuming that they meet the requirements and are admitted, and will receive the master’s degree from UCSC. As master’s students, they will be treated as degree seeking students and will pay full NRT. CAFA also has learned that VPAA Lee, in consultation with Graduate Council, is in process of developing guidelines for Bachelor’s/Master’s programs, and it is presumed that aspiring students under this program will be applying under the latter guidelines (the second +1). CAFA therefore recommended that SIO Ferguson work closely with VPAA Lee and Graduate Council in development of the guidelines for 3+1+1 programs.

CAFA reviewed SIO Ferguson’s draft guidelines for establishing policy for the first part of the 3+1+1, where students spend their fourth year of undergraduate study at UCSC and receive the bachelor’s degree from the sending institution. CAFA recommended further developing these guidelines. CAFA also recommended that the SIO guidelines offer specific guidance for developing proposals that clearly state how proposals will be evaluated. CAFA will send its suggestions to SIO Ferguson. CAFA also recommended consultation with Senate committees and VPAA Lee once the draft guidelines have been completed and noted it would like to see these guidelines, and the Economics proposal, reviewed by the Senate next academic year.

New Issues for Annual Report
This item was not discussed.