

Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (CAFA)**Minutes****October 8, 2014****Kerr 307**

Present: Minghui Hu (Chair), Mark Carr, Jean E. Fox Tree, David Helmbold, Ted Warburton, Deanna Shemek, David Smith, Lila Blackney (Undergraduate Rep), Justin McClendon (Undergraduate Rep), Matthew Mednick (Senate Analyst), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Yi Zhang, Victor Garcia-Zepeda (Undergraduate Rep)

Guest: Richard Hughey, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education

Conducting Committee Business

Chair Hu provided a brief overview of member responsibilities and procedures for conducting CAFA business. Members reviewed the Confidentiality Agreement and Consultation Procedures documents. The committee also discussed and agreed to the CAFA's guest policy, which includes administrative guest presence at committee meetings by committee invitation.

Chair Hu also provided a broad overview of UC admissions, to contextualize the committee's work as a policy deliberation body and tasks for the committee in the coming year.

Policy and Terminology: Admissions Policy, Holistic Review

Chair Hu introduced key issues, policies, and terms for the committee, including Holistic Review (HR), Comprehensive Review, Student Success Indicator (SSI), Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC), the transfer process, and the 9x9 and proposed change to 7x7 policy.

Chair Hu provided an overview of Holistic Review, including recent changes developed by CAFA in 2013-14. This year, the committee will be working on implementation of the policy changes. Chair Hu emphasized the need to monitor the implementation process.

The committee discussed the addition of the Student Success Indicator (SSI) as a major change to HR policy last year. SSI is an academic indicator based on grade point average. SSI provides a check on the "human read" admissions score, intended to prevent admissions of unprepared students.

Chair Hu explained that Holistic Review utilizes fourteen review criteria, most of them academic. One of the review criteria includes Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC), described as our campus's main tool for maintaining diversity. ELC allows students in the top 9% of their school district qualify for eligibility. One member asked about the weighting of the fourteen review criteria, and particularly the criterion that states academic accomplishments may be considered in light of a student's experiences and special circumstances. The committee discussed this issue and noted that there is no real formula for weighting, and that CAFA does not have language on this, but implicitly weighs academic factors most heavily.

Committee members also discussed the issue of transfer students and selection, a priority issue for UC President Napolitano. Chair Hu noted that the transfer process provides an avenue for

mobility and presents each campus with a quality control issues, including major preparedness requirements, transferability of courses, and timely graduation. One member asked for data on UCSC transfer numbers in comparison to other UC campuses.

Chair Hu provided an overview of 9x9, and the proposed change to 7x7 that is currently being discussed at BOARS. This policy is intended to guarantee admissions to the top high school students according to the California Master Plan for Higher Education. California has two paths to determine eligibility, the statewide path and ELC. The committee discussed the need for increased selectivity as well as the implications of such a change. One major implication discussed by members was the issue of the shrinking of the California resident eligibility pool, and this was discussed in context of increasing non-resident enrollment. Chair Hu noted that the proposed change to 7x7 would decrease the diversity of underrepresented students enrolled. Members also discussed both the value of nonresident enrollment as well as the potential tensions in context of shrinking California enrollments. One committee member asked for more data on the numbers of accepted ELC students.

CAFA 2014-15 Priorities

CAFA discussed various issues of significance, including how anticipated budget issues might affect the work of the committee, and requests by members to learn more about specific issues including the admissions process, the admissions process for honors students, and the financial aid process. Members were also interested in learning more about campus strategy for recruitment and outreach efforts, particularly for transfer students, Out of State and International students.

VPDUE Hughey noted that his goal is to increase enrollment and stabilize the recruitment budget. He also noted that financial aid is impacted by the lack of tuition growth. There is growth of nonresident enrollment, and one source of financial aid for this group is the Undergraduate Dean's Award for this group. This award currently costs 18% of nonresident tuition, but he would like to bring this down to 10%. None of the NRT is committed to the need based financial aid pool. The VPUDE's office has hired a consultant to examine financial aid. The resulting report will be circulated for committee response.

VPDUE Hughey announced a frosh "Edge" program planned for next summer, intended to help students be better prepared before the start of the school year. This program is expected to provide students with an extra quarter of financial support during the summer.

Sub-Committee Assignments

Members who have been part of sub-committees in the past academic year provided a brief overview of each of the subcommittees, including Appeals, Financial Aid, Publication, and Data. Chair Hu will be finalizing sub-committee assignments, and these will be reviewed at the next CAFA meeting.