

**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, November 09, 2011
Kerr Hall Room 307, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

Present: Mark Anderson, Joel Ferguson, Melissa Gwyn, Pam Hunt-Carter (Registrar, *ex officio*), Justin Riordan (SUA Rep), Stephen Sweat (NSTF Rep), James Wilson, Peter Young, Susanna Wrangell (Staff), Eileen Zurbriggen (Chair).

Absent: William Dunbar , Provost Rep.(waiting on appointment), Barbara Love (Articulation Officer).

Guests: Cher Bergeon (Academic Preceptor Designee), Margie Claxton (Associate Registrar), Richard Hughey (VPDUE), Michael McCawley (Associate Director of Admissions).

I. Announcements:

Chair Zurbriggen updated members on the UCEP meeting where one of the topics for discussion was the WASC review. UCEP is concerned about potential new criteria for assessment of degree proficiencies and the "Degree Quality Profile" put forward by the Lumina Foundation (who has given money to WASC). UC Merced has recently been through the accreditation process and the UC Merced UCEP representative is closely involved in formulating a response to the proposed WASC changes. There will be a systemwide campus climate survey for: undergraduates, graduates, post docs, faculty, and staff. UC is consulting with an outside researcher (Sue Rankin) to conduct this study with campus teams, who will be customizing certain aspects based on individual campus needs. The target response rate is thirty per cent. Campus climate will be measured again after 5 years to assess whether changes occur as a result of this survey. There was a transfer student report with data from UCOP and Chair Zurbriggen will send out to interested members. The UC Retirement system could be affected by Governor Brown's new proposal but that is still pending approval. There will be a report in the spring on how to the competitiveness of our offers to prospective Graduate students and what the best strategies for improving our competitiveness are. For the Online Pilot project that currently offers 24 courses, there will be a systemwide evaluation study and should include user friendly reports as well as academic publications. VPDUE Hughey reported on attending a conference on undergraduate education focusing on the Class of 2015 and how education should be changing. At this week's SEC meeting, there was continuing discussion on re-benching. Campuses that are benefitting from the current budgeting system do not want changes that will reduce their budgets and are advocating for a "do no harm" philosophy.. Our campus as well as other smaller UCs have already been harmed and will continue to be harmed if the re-benching does not occur. More on this at the senate meeting today, and the Committee on Faculty Welfare (CFW) will be making a presentation on salary metrics.

II. Revising Policy Guidelines on Appointment of Graduate Student Instructors (GSI)

The VPAA would like to streamline the process for students in terminal Masters Degree programs. CEP members discussed changing the guidelines. CEP has delegated authority for lower division appointments to the departments if the graduate student meets all five criteria established by CEP. The motivating factor is that in the near future there will be graduate student who never advance to candidacy based on programs for terminal master degrees. CEP members discussed the following points:

- What percentage of completion of a terminal degree represents expertise in the field?
- Will CEP be lowering the bar on who is allowed to teach undergraduate courses, if the proposed changes are implemented?

- CEP can always make exceptions, perhaps it would be better to keep policies the same and simply ask for exceptions where appropriate
- Undergraduate students' perception is that a graduate student is not as good as a faculty member teaching
- For *Advanced to Candidacy*, students have at least three years of graduate work in their discipline, but if the proposed changes are made to accommodate the students in terminal master's degree programs (e.g., MFA) they might be teaching with only one year of experience. This is the current criteria for the student to teach the class. There is not really expertise in the classroom and training their field. However, once the terminal degree is granted, this is the standard for university teaching and it is accepted at other institutions, two year terminal master's degrees are understood to be adequate preparation for college teaching.
- Teaching fellowships can be used to attract the best candidates via recruitment packages, but if the possibility of teaching seems uncertain (as it might if, as a matter of course, CEP would have to approve this teaching as an exception) this might make the UCSC offer less attractive to prospective students

CEP members expressed the desire not to lower the teaching bar, and two years teaching experience as a teaching assistant seems desirable. However, it was noted that some of the proposed changes to the form closely follow what is already included in CAPM 700.411. Given that this has already been approved by the campus, it seems reasonable to make the form reflect this. Changing "Ph.D." to the broader "doctorate" seemed fine to the committee and allows for the possibility of other doctoral degrees on campus (e.g., Ed.D.). Members had more concerns about explicitly stating that "30 credits" is always considered to be "equivalent training" [as advancing to candidacy].

The committee determined that they were not clear about the underlying motivation for the proposed changes and that more information from the VPAA was needed. Chair Zurbruggen will confer with the VPAA and request an extension to the December 1, 2011 response deadline.

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III. Discussion of C1 and C2 Requirements

Cowell Provost Faye Crosby sent in a request for Honors student placement in writing/core courses be determined by SAT scores. To take part in the Cowell honor's program, the student must place into C2, and she would like to know this in the summer (or even earlier) rather than finding out a few days before classes start in the fall whether an incoming student will qualify for C2. CEP members discussed the issue, consulting guest Michael McCawley and Writing Program Chair and CEP member, James Wilson about testing options. CEP appreciates the desire to recruit the top students to the honors program and to give them as much advance notice as possible about the classes they will be taking in the fall and that it would be awkward to have to disinvite a student if they could not place into C2 after arriving on campus. However, committee members were not willing to approve the request to allow SAT scores to be used for placement into C2. The writing task on the Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE) is more complex than the writing that is part of the SAT, and more suited for placement purposes, according to our writing faculty based on supporting data. It also is not possible to allow students with high scores on the SAT to take the AWPE in the spring because this is a system-wide test, provided via contract with an outside vendor, to serve a specific purpose (determining satisfaction of ELWR) and this cannot be changed to suit UCSC's special needs in regards to placement into C1 or C2. Crown Provost and CEP member Joel Ferguson pointed out that, due to the impossibility of exact planning regarding the capacity of C1 vs C2 for incoming frosh, it often happens that Crown College has a mixed C1/C2 class of Crown 80 in which some students enroll in Crown 80A and some students enroll in Crown 80B.

Under this arrangement, the two student groups have somewhat different types of assignments, appropriate to the C1 or C2 level. He suggested that this might be an acceptable (if not exactly ideal) solution for Provost Crosby's problem. CEP will send a response to Provost Crosby via email stating why we cannot approve the use of the SAT for C1/C2 placement and suggesting the split 80 course as a possible alternative solution.

IV. Continuing Discussion of DQ Policies, Admissions Policies

Chair Zurbriggen will email members individually on departments in their divisions that could possibly need review of their admission and or disqualification policies for a future meeting.

V. VPDUE Hughey's Topics of Interest for possible CEP Action

VPDUE Hughey has presented a list of topics he would like CEP to consider discussing this year. Chair Zurbriggen asked members to address any questions for the VPDUE before he recused himself from further discussion. Members discussed the list of suggested topics from the VPDUE and felt that many of the underlying issues deserved discussion. In particular, the following list was the committee's top choices for future agenda items if time permits this year:

- 12 credits vs 15 credits,

New transfers students find that taking 12 credits helps the transition into the University. Some English language learners are also advised to take fewer than 15 credits in their first term. UCSC students must meet 36 units for the year as an average to keep receiving financial aid. Students who sign up for fewer than 12 credits are notified so they can add a class and keep track during the year.

- Double Major restriction guidelines,; at the least more direction from CEP to provosts concerning double majors might be helpful
- Class Withdraw what is the effect on impacted courses when many students withdraw?
- Disqualification Policy, create guidelines for reference to maintain consistency in the colleges
- VPDUE office as a course sponsoring agency

So attests,

Eileen Zurbriggen, Chair