Committee on Preparatory Education
Minutes
Monday, March 3, 2008
1-2:30 p.m., Kerr Hall Room 129

Present: Elizabeth Abrams (Chair), Roxanne Monnet (Staff), Ellen Newberry (NSTF Rep), Judy Scott, Tony Tromba.

I. Announcements, introductions, and updates.

CPE was reminded of the Senate Meeting scheduled for Friday. At this meeting a vote will be called on CPE’s legislative proposal to change its charge to add the Entry-Level Writing Requirement coordinator as “invited to sit with” CPE.

II. Minutes. The February 4 minutes were accepted as amended. CPE voted to put their minutes on the Senate’s public web site retroactively to fall 2007.

III. Undergraduate Diversity Report.

A draft response to the Undergraduate Work Team of the Regents’ Study Group on University Diversity Report will be circulated to the Committee via email. Quick feedback is needed in order to meet the March 12 deadline.

IV. Math Preparation Needs.

To better understand the scope of the problem with regard to math preparation needs of UCSC students, CPE will request from Institutional Research statistics including the pass rates for the past 5 years for Math 2 and 3, and for AMS 3 (formerly Engineering 3). The Committee would also like to know the number of students who repeat the courses and the number that fail more than once. The Committee would be particularly interested in having the information broken down by Major in order to understand which disciplines may be most impacted by their students' challenges to pass their math requirements. CPE would like to know whether the percentage of students who test into Math 2 has increased versus those who test into Math 3 or higher level courses.

CPE discussed whether to bring together a group of people who are particularly interested in the topic of improved pass rates for Math 2 and 3 for a brainstorming session, such as chairs or undergraduate program directors of affected departments and directors of programs like EOP and ACE. They decided to first write to the Chairs of Psychology and Applied Math & Statistics to determine their interest in an offering of Math 2 and/or 3 for non-science and engineering majors. Chair Abrams will write to these departments and to Institutional Research with a data request.

V. Confirmation of spring meeting dates.

In the spring CPE will meet on Thursdays April 3, May 1, and June 5 from 2-3:30 p.m.

So attests,

Elizabeth Abrams, Chair
Committee on Preparatory Education