

**Committee on Preparatory Education Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**February 03, 2012**  
**9- 10:30 a.m. Kerr Hall 129**

Present: Frank Bauerle (NSTF Rep), Gabriel Elkaim, Donna Hunter, Sarah-Hope Parmeter (ELWR Coordinator), David Smith (Chair), Susanna Wrangell (staff).

Absent: None.

**I. Announcements**

Chair Smith informed members of the VPDUE's new retention grant program, Graduation Innovations Program. The committee is charged with creating retention proposals and ideas. The committee membership includes staff and faculty, who are working quickly to establish grants targeting retention parameters. These grants are to be in place by April, so departments and programs can apply to help with retention issues in their specific area. The committee will also create projects, other proposals or ideas and submit to the EVC for implementation.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

CPE members reviewed the minutes and approved with minor changes.

**III. UCSC Retention Report**

The report although very long was actually very encouraging for UCSC. While the summary of the retention report was not capturing in our overall rate, it was encouraging when the data is corrected for the population of students who enroll, such as first generation and students of color, UCSC's retention rate is better than average. CPE members wondered what the policies and steps are for students who are encouraged to leave and get the preparation they need to be successful in their major. Analyst Wrangell will do research and report back to the committee at the next meeting on February 24.

The questions:

- What steps are taken and what policies are in place when a student needs to leave due to failing or disqualification?
- How do advisers tell the students they need to leave
- How do the colleges track these students? Are they encouraged to return?
- Are the students disqualified first, what policy is used?

**IV. Report from UCOPE meeting 1/20/12**

UCOPE members discussed the writing prompts for the AWPE essay scores. Financing this exam was discussed and solutions to keeping the cost down and also affordable for all.

The fee waiver has been broken down into three tiers based on the student's eligibility to participate in the federal free lunch program.

- Students who participate 100% receive a full waiver of fees
- Students who participate less than 100% receive a fee reduced to \$20
- Students who don't qualify pay the full cost of \$110.

The AWPE exam would be cheaper (sustainable) if more students participated, bringing the cost down. UCOPE discussed the possibility to study ELWR students who marginally pass the exam with test scores, who are not doing well and revisit raising the threshold.

A CPE member reported back on the Online scoring system, which in her perception, the quality has deteriorated, when assessing these writing scores. In the past, Readers who needed help were given one on one instruction. Now the feedback is given electronically, writing back and forth via email with readers which has proven to be more difficult. The readers or scorers are not around a table, so the round table style of discussion is missing, maybe Skype or some other type of tele-conferencing would work. It was also suggested a one day training for readers based in both Southern and Northern California be held for first time Readers working with experienced readers, would help in explaining what to look for on exams.

Also from the UCOPE meeting, members discussed the BOARS transfer proposal. Major programs would provide courses for specific articulation agreements with community college via articulation. Transfer students are being addressed at BOARS on this proposal. This is the second draft. For Physics the community colleges don't offer the courses that are needed for the first two years so these students typically take three years to complete a degree after transferring into a UC or CSU. Admissions should be guided by those students who are best prepared for the major, each campus department will develop their own set of articulation agreements. The infrastructure is already in place with ASSIST, instead of just a neutral articulation, a student could check what you would need from the department that you want to major in. More on the systemwide diagnostic test, Chair Smith had to report back that UCSC is now designing an online placement exam, which could cause confusion to students on which test they should take. The next step for the systemwide online placement exam will be to send out the draft letter in today's agenda to every campus and ask if this would work for your students and what does your campus do now.

**V. Members Items and or updates ELWR and Math moved forward due to lack of time.**

So attest,  
David Smith, Chair

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.