To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

The Committee on International Education (CIE) held nine regularly scheduled meetings during the academic year and consulted with relevant campus administrators regarding issues within its purview.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As per the Academic Senate bylaws, the purpose of CIE is “to provide advice and consent on all matters of international education and exchange, including practices that impact exchange students and scholars.”

During the 2019-2020 academic year, CIE:

- Provided review of Memorandums of Understanding with international institutions.
- Prepared for survey presentation of international undergraduate students results and biennial workshop.
  - Analysis of the results were distributed in Winter 2020. Reviewed systemwide policy concerning UC international activities.
- Consulted with administration as needed including:
  - Simran Singh (Director, Office of International Students)
  - Leesa Beck (Registrar)
  - Juan Campo (Director, UCSB Education Abroad Program)
  - David Marshall (Executive Vice Chancellor)
  - Lisa Przekop (Director, Office of Admissions)
  - Tricia Rascon (Director of Orientation Programs & Parent Services)
International Agreements

1. Memorandum of Understanding between UCSB and the Max Planck Institutes for Empirical Aesthetics, for Psycholinguistics and for Human Development

   CIE reviewed and endorsed the MOU. However, the committee recommended MOU include explicit information regarding any funding obligations that it may incur.

2. CIE Response to the Memorandum of Understanding between UCSB and the Tohoku University Graduate School of Science

   CIE reviewed and endorsed the MOU between UCSB and the Tohoku University Graduate School of Science.

3. MOU between UCSB and the University of Newcastle and Automation and Control Global Research Network

   CIE endorsed the proposed MOU between UCSB and the University of Newcastle and Automation and Control Global Research Network. CIE noted that, due to the multilateral nature of this agreement, it is unclear how individual collaborations and exchanges between the various institutions named within the MOU would be arranged. CIE suggested that this be clarified within the MOU, and endorsed with the understanding that any such arrangements will be negotiated via appropriate campus channels.

Survey of International Undergraduate Students and CIE Workshop

Last year, CIE conducted its 5th biennial survey of international undergraduate students between May and June 2019. The survey was commissioned by the Academic Senate, carried out by the Office of Budget and Planning, Institutional Research, Planning & Assessment (IRPA), with support from the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor. The online questionnaire was distributed via email to undergraduate international students, of which 461 completed the survey, resulting in a final response rate of 21.8%. The survey results were analyzed by a graduate student in the Statistics and Applied Probability Department and further comparative analysis continued over the summer.

In February 2020, CIE began preparations for the biennial CIE Workshop. The committee had planned to present on the results of the survey.

*Three leading factors that correlated with satisfaction in overall social experience:*

1. Opportunities to make friends, meet people from a different country, and to make friends with American students
2. Overall academic experience
3. Satisfaction with help received to develop English language proficiency.
There were four top factors that correlated with satisfaction in overall academic experience:

1. Overall social experience
2. Opportunities to make friends, meet people from a different country, and to make friends with American students
3. Effectiveness of UCSB communicating information and guidance about academic standards, expectations of a US research University
4. Overall sense of being a valued member of the UCSB community.

CIE was unable to present the results and the CIE Workshop (expected to take place in April 2020) was cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Information Items

- Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Online Course Evaluations
- BOARS Recommendation to Eliminate the ACT-SAT Essay Requirement
- UCIE internationalization memo

Local Issues

1. Evaluation System for Courses and Instruction (ESCI)

   The Committee found the Report of the ESCI Ad Hoc Committee to be comprehensive and well documented. While the Ad Hoc Committee’s report addressed inherent biases against certain groups of instructors, CIE felt that it did not explicitly consider biases that arise from differences in English language proficiency or nationality. These biases may negatively affect international faculty members or international students in instructional roles. Therefore, it seemed valuable to consider concerns that are specific to this population when considering a potential redesign of the instructional evaluation process. It may also be important to recognize cross-cultural differences in the way students perceive the evaluation process.

   International students seem to have a different view on student-teacher relationships which is often manifested in different (i.e., more formal and impersonal) styles of communication. These views may also manifest within the teaching evaluation process. CIE believed improved guidance for students regarding the nature of the teaching evaluation process, and suggested that a brief discussion of UCSB’s expectations about teaching evaluations within the student orientation programs provided by the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) be included.

2. CIE Response to the Internationalization Memo

   CIE reviewed the Internationalization Memo: Recognizing International Activities as Part of the Merit, Tenure, and Promotion Process at the University of California. The proposal was prepared with input from UC Senior International Officers (SIOs) across all UC campuses, with the exception of UC Santa Barbara, which does not have an SIO. In response to the memo, the committee supported recognizing international activities as
part of merit, tenure, and promotion processes. In addition, the committee would also like to reiterate the importance of having an SIO to oversee internationalization efforts at UC Santa Barbara.

Systemwide Issues

3. **CIE Response to Systemwide Review of BOARS Recommendation to Eliminate the ACT/SAT Essay Requirement**

The committee reviewed and discussed the report on the Systemwide Review of BOARS Recommendation to Eliminate the ACT/SAT Essay Requirement. In response to the report, the committee felt that this should not affect international students and does not see issues arising due to other comprehensive assessments of international students such as Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), English Language Proficiency (ELP), and the Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE).

4. **CIE Response to the Standardized Testing Task Force (STTF) Memo**

The Committee reviewed and discussed the report on the Standardized Testing Task Force (STTF). The committee found the report to be comprehensive and well-grounded in evidence. After consulting with the local admission office, the committee expressed that standardized testing played an important role in the admission of international students and in the assessment of the “Compare Favorably” policy required for nonresident domestic and international students admitted to a UC campus. The committee stressed that changes in the use of standardized testing will require a restructuring of admission policies for international students.

Coordination with Administration

*Simran Singh, Director, Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS)*

The Director of OISS is a frequent attendee of meetings and is a valuable resource to inform CIE of current OISS initiatives, as well as news and policies that relate to the international community on campus.

*Leesa Beck, Registrar, Office of the Registrar*

The Registrar was consulted for clarification on the proposal concerning student conduct and degree clearance.

*Juan Campo, Director, UCSB Education Abroad Program*

The Director of EAP is an ex officio member of the Committee and acts as a resource regarding information about EAP.

*David Marshall, Executive Vice Chancellor, UCSB*
The Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor provided continued support for CIE’s biennial survey of international undergraduate students. CIE worked with EVC Marshall to add several new questions to the survey for 2019.

Lisa Przekop, Director, UCSB Office of Admissions

The Director was consulted regarding admissions procedures for international students and methods for testing English proficiency for international students.

Tricia Rascon, Director of Orientation Programs & Parent Services

The Director was consulted regarding orientation programs and procedures for international students, with particular attention to the registration process and programs to help inform students about the standards for academic integrity at UCSB.

Carry-over Issues and Future Initiatives

- Responses to results and committee recommendations for Survey for 2020-21
- Addressing COVID-19 impacts International Students
- Campus resources for international students
- Preparation for Biennial International Student Survey, including COVID-19 related impacts to questions.
- Monitor needs of international scholars and visiting faculty

MEMBERS:

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