

## UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2006-07

To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

The Undergraduate Council (UGC) held regularly scheduled 90-minute meetings every other week during fall, winter and spring quarters, as did each of its three standing committees. Various agenda items are routinely delegated for preliminary review by the appropriate standing committee(s), followed by full Council review of committee recommendations.

### **Executive Summary**

Purpose: To set standards for and policy on undergraduate education and to provide advice and consent on all matters of policy, planning, programs and practice that impact the quality and diversity of UCSB's undergraduates and their educational experiences at UCSB.

### Issues of General Concern

- UGC played a key role in deliberations leading to Faculty Legislature approval of new minimum cumulative progress requirements to be implemented in Fall 2008. UGC will continue to monitor the effects of these requirements.
- In response to UGC concerns, the Senate has initiated an investigation into how the campus should respond to impacted undergraduate majors. As a first step, UGC has collected relevant background information from impacted departments. A task force will be convened in Fall 2007.
- UGC provided input during the preparation of an eligibility reform proposal to be distributed for Senate-wide review in Fall 2007 by the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools.

### **Local Senate Business**

#### Academic Program Reviews

In cooperation with the Program Review Panel (PRP), UGC participated in the academic program reviews of the Departments of Chicana and Chicano Studies, English, Geography, Political Science, and Physics. Since its establishment in 2002, the Council has continually refined its effectiveness in assessing the strengths and weaknesses as well as the needs of the units it responds to. The follow-up procedures that have been implemented by the EVC in recent years have provided an extra measure of assurance that concerns raised by Senate Councils are being adequately addressed.

In addition to the reviews coordinated by PRP, the Council participated in the reviews of the Writing Program and the Department of Military Science, which were coordinated by their respective Deans, via the use of ad hoc review committees. The Council has previously questioned the inconsistency of reviewing a select group of academic units through alternative procedures. Given that the relevant dean plays a specifically defined role within the reviews coordinated by PRP, how can the dean consistently carry out that same role when his/her office is responsible for conducting the review? The review of the Department of Exercise and Sport Studies is currently being coordinated by Dean Oliver's office. After the decision had been finalized to coordinate the review in this manner, but prior to the commencement of the review, UGC was asked to review and comment on the proposed review format. While agreeing that the proposed format appeared adequate, UGC recommended that someone with expertise in muscle physiology be added to the proposed ad hoc review committee.

### Review of the Faculty in Residence Program

In response to a request from EVC Lucas, UGC was delegated by the Senate Chair to conduct a review of the Faculty in Residence (FIR) Program currently housed in Manzanita Village. The main components of this review were a self-assessment, a student survey, and interviews with faculty, administrators, and students. The self-assessment was directed by Associate Vice Chancellor Ronald Tobin, with assistance from Executive Director Wilfred Brown and Professor Athanassakis, the current faculty member in residence. The survey of past and present students in Manzanita Village was prepared by UGC with input from AVC Tobin and was administered by Executive Director Brown. The interviews were conducted by the Council's Committee on Undergraduate Student Affairs (CUSA) during Winter and Spring 2007. CUSA met with AVC Tobin, Professor Athanassakis, EVC Lucas, Associated Students President Jared Goldschen, and a panel of current Manzanita Village residents. CUSA also gathered information for comparative purposes on FIR programs at other UC campuses and comparable universities. Numerous evaluative findings and recommendations for expanding faculty involvement in student residential life were outlined in a substantial report submitted to EVC Lucas at the end of spring quarter.

### Department of Dramatic Art Name Change and New Emphasis Proposal

UGC endorsed a request from the former Department of Dramatic Art to change its name to the Department of Theater and Dance. The Council also endorsed the following degree program name changes, effective Fall 2007:

*Bachelor of Arts – Dramatic Art* to become ***Bachelor of Arts – Theater***

*Master of Arts – Dramatic Art* to become ***Master of Arts – Theater Studies***

*Doctor of Philosophy – Dramatic Art* to become ***Doctor of Philosophy – Theater Studies***

As requested in the same proposal, UGC approved the establishment of four new undergraduate emphases – in *Design*, *Directing*, *Playwriting*, and *Theater Studies* to be offered within the BA program in Theater, effective Fall 2007.

### Classics Emphasis Proposal and Revision of Senate Regulation 125

In response to a proposal from the Department of Classics, UGC approved the establishment of a new *Emphasis in Greek and Roman Culture* within the BA in Classics as well as the discontinuation of the Department's existing *Emphasis in Classical Civilization*, effective Fall 2007.

The Classics proposal also included a request for an exception to Senate Regulation 125, which mandates that two-thirds of the upper division courses required within a major program be taught, coordinated, and supervised by the department offering the program. Although an excellent rationale was provided by the Classics Department, UGC did not have authority to grant such an exception. Council members considered whether Faculty Legislature approval should actually be necessary in such cases and decided to propose a revision of SR 125 that would allow UGC to grant exceptions to this regulation following approval by the L&S Executive Committee. The proposed revision was approved by the Faculty Legislature, and the Council subsequently granted the Classics Department's request for an exception with respect to its new emphasis.

### Other Program Proposals

UGC approved the establishment of two new emphases within the BS in Geological Science – one in *Geohydrology* and the other in *Earth and Planetary Science*, effective Fall 2007.

In response to a proposal from the Department of Computer Science, UGC approved an *Emphasis in Computational Economics* within the BA in Computer Science, effective Fall 2007. While the College of Engineering offers the BS program in Computer Science, the BA program is offered by the College of Letters and Science. Given the unusual cross-college structure that supports the BA program, the Council strongly encouraged ample consultation between the relevant parties in both colleges with respect to oversight of the new emphasis.

UGC approved a proposal to change the name of the *Non-Western Emphasis* offered within the BA program in Art History to *Emphasis in the Art of Africa, Asia, and the Americas*, effective Fall 2007.

A proposal to discontinue the *Minor in German Literature*, due to lack of student interest, was approved by UGC, effective Fall 2007.

UGC approved a proposal to establish an honors program for Distinction in the Major in Asian American Studies, effective Fall 2007.

UGC endorsed the proposal to establish MA and PhD Programs in Feminist Studies after investigating what impact these programs are likely to have on the undergraduate offerings of the Women's Studies Program.

UGC coordinated the review of a proposal from the College of Creative Studies to establish two new BS degree programs – one in *Computer Engineering* and the other in *Electrical Engineering*. Several of the courses would be taught jointly by Engineering and CCS Faculty, while the programs would be administered by CCS. The Executive Committees of both colleges strongly endorse the proposal, as do both Deans. However, the Council has not yet received a response from the EVC regarding his assessment of the proposed programs and whether the relatively substantial funds needed to sustain the programs will be made available. The Council will continue its review of this proposal once the EVC's response has been received.

### Science and Math Initiative

Early in fall quarter UGC was asked to comment on the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education's plan for implementing the Science and Math Initiative introduced by the Governor and UC President Dynes for the purpose of increasing UC's output of teachers trained in science and mathematics. The plan includes an undergraduate minor component that has not as yet been proposed for UGC approval. Thus far the Council has approved 4 new courses associated with the initiative and anticipates that a proposal to establish a new minor may be forthcoming in Fall 2007.

### Law and Society Program

After approving a one-year moratorium on admission of new majors to the Law and Society Program effective Fall 2006, UGC informed the Program in January of 2006 that admission of new majors will remain suspended until deficiencies in the Program can be rectified and long-term viability assured. UGC Chair Omer Blaes and Vice Chair Peter Digeser consulted with the Chair of the Law and Society Program mid-year for an update on progress toward achieving that goal. Chair Lisa Hajar indicated that she is working with Dean Oliver on the report that UGC requested to receive by January of 2008. Upon learning that the Program's academic review originally scheduled by PRP for the 2007-08 cycle has been deferred, the Council strongly urged that any subsequent deferral requests be denied.

### Impacted Majors

The Law and Society Program is only one of many academic units facing the problems associated with attempting to meet the demands of a very large number of majors with limited or inadequate resources. In response to concerns voiced by UGC, the Senate has initiated an investigation into how the campus as a whole should respond to impacted undergraduate majors. This is a complex issue, involving resource allocation, academic planning, academic advising, Senate policies on undergraduate degrees, and even a vision for what undergraduate education at a research university should entail. As a first step, the Undergraduate Council was charged with collecting information from individual departments with large undergraduate student major to faculty ratios regarding what actions, if any, they have taken to help maintain the quality of their undergraduate programs. This task has been completed, and a summary of the departmental responses has been submitted to the Senate Chair. A task force will be convened in the Fall to continue this investigation.

### Conversion Ratio

UGC Vice Chair Peter Digeser represented the Council on the Conversion Ratio Task Force (CRTF) and guided UGC through its review of actions aimed at improving UCSB's conversion ratio that were proposed by the Task Force. In conjunction with this effort, the Council endorsed the rescission of existing *Policy Ruling 5.66 – Unit-Hours Ratio* and proposed that it be replaced with new *Policy Ruling 3.07 – Course Unit Valuation*, thereby bringing UCSB's standard for assessing unit values into closer alignment with Systemwide Regulation 760.

Partially related to improving the conversion, UGC approved a change in the unit value of nine chemistry courses. This resulted in proposals to revise the unit requirements for each of the undergraduate majors offered in the College of Engineering, all of which were approved by UGC, effective Fall 2007. The Council plans to work with deans and department chairs to determine whether there are additional courses for which unit value changes are warranted.

The most significant action proposed by the CRTF was the revision of Senate Regulations 45, 100, 150, and 155, in order to implement new minimum cumulative progress requirements for undergraduates. The Council evaluated a substantial amount of data in order to determine the impact of these requirements on course-taking behavior and the degree of hardship they would impose on various portions of the student population. Following lengthy debate on all relevant factors, the Council endorsed the full slate of regulation changes.

### Transfer Admission Requirements

UGC approved proposed revisions to the special requirements that undergraduate transfer students must satisfy before being admitted to one of the various biology majors. There are now three departments that have these types of requirements, partly as a way of responding to the Letters and Science rule that all transfer students be able to graduate within two years of admission. In response to reports that the Office of Admissions lacks sufficient resources to carry out the screening of applications to enforce these requirements for all three departments, UGC reiterated last year's request to the EVC that additional funding be allocated to support this effort. It is anticipated that the need for screening of this type may increase over the coming years, especially as UC responds to state wide pressures to admit more transfer students and as departments become increasingly concerned about the particulars of their preparation.

### Finals during Summer Sessions

The Council has been concerned for some time that the current schedule of Summer Session (SS) classes cannot accommodate a three hour final exam. UGC's Committee on Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policy (CUAPP) discussed this matter with SS Director Loy Lytle and Associate Director Robert Mann. The range of options is limited due to the shortened time span available for summer scheduling. The single alternative presented by SS was not considered to be a satisfactory solution. CUAPP members offered a few additional suggestions, but did not reach an agreement. Director Lytle was therefore asked to propose additional scheduling options for UGC review. Since some of the currently available SS scheduling choices are particularly suitable for certain types of instruction, UGC recommended against the discontinuation of those options. CUAPP's incoming Chair has agreed to work with SS toward a desirable solution that can be implemented by Summer 2008.

### Student Housing Rates

CUSA met with Richard Watts, Chair of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Student Housing, Ron Andrade, Director of Financial Aid, and Willifred Brown, Executive Director of Housing and Residential Services, regarding proposed student housing rates for 2007-08 and beyond. UGC subsequently met with Director Brown to further discuss proposed plans to increase rates for undergraduates at a higher percentage than that imposed on graduate students. After discussing various rate alternatives and their impact on both graduate and undergraduate students, UGC strongly recommended that rate increases be kept consistent for all students. The proposed differential rate plan was ultimately approved in spite of the Council's recommendation that equity be maintained.

### Teaching Assistant Training

UGC was asked to respond to a proposal containing several recommendations for improving and regularizing the training received by teaching assistants across campus. The Council fully supports these recommendations and has urged the EVC to provide funding for the acquisition of TA training modules designed and implemented at UC Berkeley as a mandatory component of the TA training process.

### Extended Learning Services

As of Fall 2007 UGC will take on approval authority over UCSB Extension courses that can be petitioned for credit toward UCSB degrees, and over the instructors of these courses. UGC therefore considered a proposed revision of Bylaw 100, which outlines the Council's duties. UGC recommended further revision of the text for clarification purposes and otherwise endorsed the proposed changes. UGC officers met with the Senate Chair over the summer to discuss the possibility of initiating an external review of Extended Learning Services (ELS) in the coming year. In response to comments from UCSB faculty regarding the need to reduce the rigor of some courses offered within ELS' Off Campus Studies Program in order to accommodate the needs of ill-prepared students, UGC plans to investigate the process through which students are admitted to this Program.

### Visitor Information

UGC's Committee on Admissions, Enrollment and Relations with Schools (CAERS) expressed strong concern that the removal of the kiosk in the redesign of the East Gate entrance would increase the likelihood that visitors to campus would get lost and would seriously impact efforts to recruit the best students. UGC requested that a new information booth be built which is easily accessible to visitors. UGC and Senate officers then met with representatives of the Office of Budget and Planning and

endorsed the concept of an information kiosk at the turn-around at the end of University Plaza, south of Mesa Road. This recommendation was forwarded to Executive Vice Chancellor Lucas, in the hopes that such a kiosk could be built before April 2008 in order to prepare for Spring Insight.

### **Systemwide Business**

UGC discussion of the *Proposed Resolution on the Proper Use of the CA High School Exit Exam* (CAHSEE) resulted in a lack of consensus, as did a preliminary discussion conducted within CAERS. About half of the members felt that the information in the proposal was insufficient to enable an educated decision. While some support for the resolution was voiced, one member expressed the strong opinion that the proposal materials did not contain results of serious, ongoing research on the CAHSEE, and that more data should be analyzed before acting. Other members wanted more information regarding the effects of such a resolution on higher educational institutions, particularly community colleges.

UGC endorsed the revised Student Freedom of Scholarly Inquiry Principles.

### University Committee on Education Policy (UCEP)

While the Council expressed numerous concerns in response to the joint UCEP/CCGA proposal regarding the *Role of Graduate Students in University Instruction*, UGC did find that the proposal addressed several of its longstanding concerns about the use of associate instructors at UCSB, particularly that some level of Senate oversight be required with respect to hiring graduate students to teach lower division courses. The Council is concerned that systemwide Regulation 750 mandates a more relaxed standard for lower division courses than upper division with respect to "persons in charge of courses." Although the UCEP/CCGA proposal ultimately failed, UGC requested that UCEP continue to work toward revising this particular practice. A new proposal has in fact been generated and been sent out again for systemwide review by the Academic Council.

UGC reviewed the course articulation information that has thus far been posted on the UC Statewide Transfer Preparation Paths website as part of the ongoing effort to implement systemwide Senate Regulation 477.

### Board of Admission and Relations with Schools (BOARS)

UGC met with BOARS Chair Mark Rashid to discuss an eligibility reform proposal in which BOARS proposes to replace existing policy with one in which a campus-based comprehensive review process is used to determine which California graduating seniors are among the top one-eighth as required by the Master Plan. While keeping current ELC guidelines in place, the new policy would be based on a construct referred to as "entitled to review" that would not be a guarantee of admission. Numerous questions were asked, and Council members provided feedback that was helpful to BOARS in refining the proposal for further review. BOARS has received Academic Council approval to distribute the proposal for systemwide Senate review during Fall 2007.

BOARS Representative William Jacob provided regular updates on BOARS activities to UGC and its Committee on Admissions, Enrollment and Relations with Schools. BOARS has been responding to legislative pressure to include Career Technical Education in the coursework that satisfies the 'a-g' Subject Requirements for UC admission. Individual courses are being carefully reviewed in accord with established standards.

### University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE)

UGC received detailed reports on this year's two UCOPE meetings, including information on the committee's continued efforts toward implementation of a cap on entry level writing class size, in spite of UCEP's decision not to endorse a proposal that would mandate such a restriction. UCSB Professor Jan Frodeson will chair this committee in 2007-08.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### Committee on Undergraduate Student Affairs (CUSA)

CUSA met on a regular biweekly basis during the 2006-7 academic year. Throughout the year Michael Young, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (ex officio member), and Yonie Harris, Dean of Students (regular consultant), informed and advised the committee on matters pertaining to it. The committee also asked for briefings on specific topics: from Walter Yuen, Co-Chair of the Isla Vista Commission, on managing Halloween issues; and from Debbie Fleming, Associate Dean of Students, and Ian Kaminsky, Director, Alcohol and Drug Program, on dealing with substance abuse and, in particular, the progress of the CASE program. As at the end of each academic year, CUSA selected recipients of the campus' various undergraduate research awards. To ensure communication with appropriate agencies, CUSA's chair currently serves on the Intercollegiate Athletic Policy Board and the Isla Vista Commission.

#### *Fall 2006*

CUSA was delegated by UGC to review and report on proposed student housing rates for 2006-7 and subsequent years. It therefore interviewed Richard Watts, Chair, Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Student Housing, Ron Andrade, Director, Office of Financial Aid, and Stephanie Brower, President, Residential Housing Association. CUSA discovered that UGC had not been properly consulted and undergraduate needs had not been addressed while the proposed rates were being developed; as a result, UGC is now represented on the Advisory Committee on Student Housing, and UGC requested that undergraduate housing rates not increase faster than those of graduate students.

#### *Winter and Spring 2007*

CUSA was delegated by UGC to undertake a program review of the Faculty in Residence Program. It therefore reviewed materials provided by Ronald Tobin (Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs), conducted a survey of students in Manzanita Village, and interviewed Apostolos Athanassakis, current Faculty in Residence, AVC Ronald Tobin, EVC Gene Lucas, Jared Goldschen, President of Associated Students, and a panel of current Manzanita Students. CUSA found that the program has largely been successful, and recommended short- and long-term changes to improve and strengthen it; UGC then submitted its program review to the Senate and Administration.

### Committee on Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policy (CUAPP)

This is a very hard-working committee, meeting every other week with a full agenda, plus a considerable amount of work outside of meeting times. Over the course of the year, CUAPP responded to the following as part of its regular workload:

GE proposals reviewed: 26

Associate appointment proposals reviewed: 164

Course requests reviewed: 1222

While the new course approval system has streamlined that process considerably, all other proposals noted above still require review of paper files, some of considerable girth.

### *Major issues*

Science and Mathematics Initiative: CUAPP consulted on this several times over the course of the year, and eventually approved the introductory courses associated with this Initiative.

Biology Transfer Admissions Proposal: After extensive discussion and consultation with the Registrar, Senate analyst, and the Departments, CUAPP recommended approval of a modified version of the original proposal. There was much debate as to the proper agency to screen applications for these requirements.

Teaching Associates: After addressing this issue at length during the previous year, CUAPP activity this year was limited to commenting on the joint UCEP/CCGA proposal on the role of graduate students in University instruction.

Re-delegation of CELIEP duties: After extensive discussion with University Extension, CUAPP expressed willingness to accept oversight of courses offered by Extension that can be petitioned for credit toward UCSB academic degrees and over the instructors of such courses. Review and approval of instructors of these courses and instructors, while under the final authority of the Undergraduate Council, will be shared with the appropriate cognate departments.

Finals during Summer Sessions: After extensive consultation, CUAPP recommended that instructors have the option of offering a full-length final examination in Summer Session courses and worked with Summer Session administrators toward that goal.

Course unit value changes: Following UGC discussion, CUAPP was delegated to respond to a request from the Department of Chemistry to increase the course unit value of nine chemistry courses. After making several changes to bring the individual course requests into compliance with UGC's new ruling on unit valuation, all nine unit value changes were approved.

On-line/distance instruction: CUAPP continued discussion on setting policy for the review of courses that are given primarily on-line. UCSB does not currently offer any courses that are strictly on-line, but these do exist on other UC campuses. Next year, CUAPP should review the different methods that can be used for on-line instruction, establish standard criteria, and suggest changes to the master course approval form that will provide sufficient information to allow CUAPP to make decisions about the approval of on-line courses.

### *Other issues*

CUAPP conducted preliminary reviews of proposals requesting the following actions and recommended approval by the Undergraduate Council.

#### Establishment of programs:

- Department of Asian American Studies: Honors Program for Distinction in the Major
- Department of Computer Science: Emphasis in Computational Economics within the BA program in Computer Science
- Department of Earth Science: Emphases in Geohydrology and Emphasis in Earth and Planetary Science within the BS in Geological Science
- Department of Classics: Emphasis in Greek and Roman Culture within the BA in Classics



College of Creative Studies – BS in Electrical Engineering and BS in Computer Engineering  
(still pending)

Discontinuation of programs:

Department of Classics: Emphasis in Classical Civilization

Department of Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies - Minor in German Literature

Name change from Department of Dramatic Art to Department of Theatre and Dance; name changes to three of the Department's existing degree programs, and establishment of Emphases in Design, Directing, Playwriting and Theater. This required consultation with the Department.

Reduction in the language requirement for completion of the Major in Chicana and Chicano Studies

### Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Relations with Schools (CAERS)

#### *Eligibility Reform*

During AY 06-07 BOARS devoted a significant portion of its discussion to the topic of undergraduate eligibility reform. BOARS has for multiple years been moving towards a significant policy change, and if implemented, it potentially could dramatically impact the composition of UCSB undergraduates. Chair Jacob reported regularly to CAERS on these discussions to seek committee input. To provide background for this effort, in the fall CAERS heard from Tom Ostwald (recently retired Director of UCSB's School-University Partnership Program) and from Joe Castro (Former Director, Academic Preparation and Equal Opportunity, UCSB) to get their perspectives on academic preparation, admissions policy, and diversity. During the fall and winter quarters, CAERS discussed the evolving BOARS proposal, based upon "Talking Points" drafted by BOARS to elicit input from local committees. During the spring quarter, Mark Rashid, chair of BOARS came to UCSB and met jointly with CAERS and the Undergraduate Council to discuss the proposal. He also met with UCSB administrators (Vice Chancellor Young, Assistant Vice Chancellor Huff and Admissions Director Van Gieson.) At its April 6 meeting, BOARS approved the eligibility reform proposal "Entitled to Review" (ETR), subject to clarifying amendments and an implementation discussion sheet. The proposal will go out system-wide for comment and will then be readdressed by BOARS during 07-08.

During the fall CAERS discussions with Drs. Ostwald and Castro, two significant themes emerged. First, regarding UC academic preparation and efforts, based upon experiences with our partnership schools it appears that the major difficulties underrepresented minorities (URMs) face in completing a-g requirements are rooted in what happens in the junior high schools rather than in senior high school, where they actually would take a-g courses. Many URMs are tracked out of a UC preparatory program upon entrance to the high school, and although our outreach efforts aimed at high schools can increase teachers and student awareness about a-g courses, it was recommended that in the future outreach focus on grades 5-8 where these problems occur. The second theme that emerged was that UC's Eligible in a Local Context (ELC) program appears to account for the increased diversity in our five partnership schools, probably much more so than other efforts. The consensus is that this is a highly successful program.

During the fall and winter, CAERS considered the BOARS talking points on eligibility reform:

1. BOARS has committed itself to fundamental reform of UC's eligibility construct.
2. In broad outline, BOARS is focusing on ways to expand the pool of students eligible for comprehensive review, beyond those now deemed UC-eligible.
3. Whether a guarantee of admission for some fraction of applicants, with its attendant referral

pool, remains a feature of any proposed new policy is an open question at this time.

4. BOARS does not view expansion of the admitted class beyond the 12.5% level, or growth of the enrolled class above current projections, as integral to its discussion of eligibility reform.

5. BOARS understands and is sensitive to the fact that any new policy of the type now under discussion will entail additional cost.

6. BOARS is actively deliberating this subject. Following standard procedures, the divisions and their academic-senate committees will be consulted when a concrete recommendation takes shape.

In very general terms, the basic points of discussion in BOARS and CAERS were as follows. The major reason students who complete a-g courses fail to become UC eligible is not low grades or test scores, but it is simply their failure to take all the required tests. (UC requires more tests than any other comparable public institution.) In other words, the act of test taking has become a primary determinant of UC eligibility, rather than academic indicators such as those identified in comprehensive review. The current UC eligibility criteria are based upon GPA and test scores alone and are set so that approximately 12.5% of high school graduates are eligible (the 2003 CPEC data indicates it may be slightly higher). Data suggests that if all students who complete a-g with GPA typical of current UC eligible students were to take all the required tests and receive scores their achievement indicates they should, then the UC eligibility rate could exceed 20%. Discussion centered on the issue of who is being left out, why, and what are the implications for UC and the state<sup>1</sup>. The basic idea of what would become the centerpiece of the BOARS proposal was discussed, namely to extend the opportunity to provide comprehensive review to all students who complete a-g with a minimum GPA. This set of students would be significantly larger than the current eligible pool and they would be designated “entitled to review” (ETR). Then, the campuses would select for admission the students whose comprehensive reviews were the strongest and the overall numbers admitted should match master plan goals of 12.5%. CAERS discussed the implications of such a policy given the fact that UC has historically “guaranteed admission” to 12.5% of the states high school graduates based upon “transparent” GPA and test score criteria that many people view as an important social contract. It was noted however, that the “guarantee” provided by UC eligibility means that, if a UC eligible student is not admitted to the campus of his/her choice, they are offered admission to one of the two non selective campuses, an opportunity that is used by about 6% of those offered referral admission—not a significant number in view of BOARS.

During the spring, CAERS further discussed the details of the eligibility proposal and Mark Rashid (BOARS Chair) visited the campus on May 17. The response to Mark’s visit to CAERS and the Undergraduate Council generally seemed positive. His visit was informational only and no votes were taken. He shared that the proposal would maintain the current ELC provisions, that possibly around 20% of high school graduates could be ETR, that each campus would retain autonomy in devising its comprehensive review procedures although there might be some opportunities for collaboration. (The average UC applicant applies to 3.5 campuses, and 72% apply to Berkeley or UCLA or both where they are subject to the same process.) It has been noted, both in the BOARS and CAERS discussions, that the Regents have formed the University Diversity Study Group to evaluate the current status of UC diversity and the impact of Proposition 209 and its subgroup on undergraduate

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<sup>1</sup> BOARS has studied many simulations, regressions, and other data to try to get a handle on what such a policy revision could mean. If one uses the 2003 CPEC data (the most recent we have), the total UC Eligible students (2003 Rules) represents 14.4% of high school graduates (a total 48,211) of which 19% are URM. However, if one were to consider high school graduates completing 15 a-g with a GPA > 2.8 as ETR, this same CPEC data set would include 24.8% of these graduates (82,991) of which 24% are URM. This is not to say that this is or should be the proposed definition for ETR—it merely indicates the potential for growing the pool to which we could apply comprehensive review with confidence of academic success comparable to that of the current pool.

admissions independently reached similar conclusions as BOARS regarding the necessity to enlarge the pool for which comprehensive review is applied. There are many more details that can be dug out of BOARS and CAERS minutes and the proposal itself will be circulated throughout the system-wide senate this year for comment.

#### *Other BOARS Items.*

Among the other BOARS agenda items discussed in CAERS, a few with significance to UCSB are mentioned here. The first involves community college (CC) transfers and the Transfer Preparation Pathways system. CC transfer to UC (and CSU for that matter) is an issue of statewide concern, particularly in the legislature, where it is believed that far too few students who enter the CA community college system continue on to a four-year university. In 2005 the state provided UC 2 million dollars to facilitate CC transfers (part of SB 652), and UCOP is using a chunk of these funds in developing an on-line information system ([www.uctransfer.org](http://www.uctransfer.org)), UC Transfer Preparation Pathways. Campuses have had two concerns: first they claim UCOP has not been careful enough to consult individual campus departments, and second that the money could have been spent better as little came through to the campuses for CC outreach work. The upshot is that the pathways program is going forward, and in the future it will be the responsibility of CAERS (and the Council) to ensure that UCSB information regarding transfer information on the website is accurate. At UCSB transfer applications dropped to 8,517 in 2006 from 8,630 in 2005 whereas freshman applicants grew to 40,300 from 37,522 over the same interval. Given that UCSB is actively seeking more CC transfers, this is an issue to watch.

Another important issue for BOARS and UCOP Admissions staff this year is the statewide effort to put pressure on UC/CSU to recognize more Career Technical Education (CTE) courses as meeting a-g requirements (mostly g). BOARS must decide how to handle the requirements of Senate Bill 1543, which requests that UC develop 'model uniform academic standards' for career technical education courses that will satisfy the area 'g' subject requirement. In addition, more than 40 bills were introduced in the State Legislature relating to CTE alone, and the Governor is considered a strong advocate for this movement. The articulation and evaluation subcommittee of BOARS has been studying course descriptions, along with items relating to a lawsuit by an association of Christian High Schools who are suing UC because their history and biology courses were not accepted as meeting a-g. These issues were also discussed in CAERS, mostly as information items, as it isn't clear yet what the role is for CAERS in this discussion at this time. However, over the next few years BOARS will carry out a revision of the a-g criteria, partly in response to CTE and the lawsuit, but also in response to legislators and CDE officials who would like to see CA academic content standards provide the a-g criteria, rather than have UC faculty define them. It is this revision of 'a-g' criteria that could potentially impact UC undergraduate admissions and is where many UC faculty are worried. Interestingly, this topic was a source of tension at the June 1 BOARS meeting with its CSU counter parts. CSU uses (essentially) the UC definition of a-g, and the tension is over who should be setting the criteria, UC alone, UC and CSU, and what is the role of K-12 standards via the State Board of Education? Historically, 'a-g' was entirely a UC invention, but now UC faculty will have to be engaged to ensure it continues to meet the system's needs.

#### *CAERS Consultant's Comments and the Kiosk Situation*

During the year, CAERS consultants were asked to raise issues of concern to see if there were any areas where CAERS could help. Assistant Vice Chancellor Betty Huff and Director of Admissions Chris Van Gieson raised the concern that although the academic preparation of UCSB freshman class has climbed impressively over the past decade, with the end of title wave II we are going to have to be more aggressive to maintain these gains. (Projections presented to BOARS indicate CA high school

graduation numbers are now to be flat through 2018.) They argued that in general, UCSB admissions and recruitment is not funded in a manner comparable to other UCs. The most critical needs identified are development of a marketing plan and making more scholarships available.

Although CAERS is not in a position to set funding policies, the committee did decide to address both Huff and Van Gieson's concern that elimination of the informational kiosks at the campus entrances has adversely affected campus access for recruitment. CAERS also learned that other members of the campus community were equally concerned and that the location of an information booth at the entrance of the Mesa parking structure was largely ineffective. The UGC endorsed a recommendation by CAERS that a new kiosk be built and, as noted in the UGC main report, the Senate has now recommended to the administration that this be located in University Plaza.

### *Applications and Admissions.*

System wide the UC applicant pool increased by 2.6%, UCLA topped 50,000 applicants and UCSB topped 40,000 applicants. The gender gap remained stable (54% female overall, 58% at UCSB) and applications from URM are gradually increasing. At UCSB URM applications were stable or increased (Chicano applications increased from 16% in 2005 to 18% in 2006). There was a slight drop in Asian applicants as a percentage of the whole (down to 13% from 15% in 2005). UCSB's low percentage of Asian applicants compared to the other UC campuses has been a topic of conversation in CAERS for a number of years. There were no other major changes in the composition of the UCSB applicant pool. The big news statewide was the increase in UCLA admissions of African Americans, which was also reflected in SIRs, combating the negative press in the fall about fewer than 100 African American enrollees at UCLA.

UCSB's initial fall 2007 admissions target of approximately 4600 caused a small stir in among some members of the campus Enrollment Planning Group as well as CAERS, largely because of the demand this increase would put on lower division service courses and also because it would push UCSB enrollment above its 20,000 cap which some considered as problematic in the public relations arena (even though we appear not to be bound to this number at this point in time.) The target was subsequently reduced to 4200, which alleviated most concerns and the 2007 admissions numbers were based upon that figure. Based on SIRs it appears we will exceed that number by several hundred, but this will likely be offset by lower transfer admissions. CAERS remains pleased with the diversity and quality of our incoming class.

The UCSB 2007 freshman admit pool in basically all indicators, matched that of 2006, except was larger. We admitted (pre appeals) 22,168 students, up from 21,248 in 2006. From this pool 22% were from URM, up from 21% in 2006. The same model for admissions used in 05-06 was used in 06-07, as were the policies for Admissions by Exception. The SIRs by early May neared 4600 and there were over 750 appeals (data on their admissions not yet available). This was a better than expected yield, and between 4300 and 4400 new freshman are expected to enroll in Fall 2007. Their average GPA is 3.82, and average SAT scores are 15 points above those of last year's class. The number of underrepresented minority students is UCSB's highest ever (25.3%), as is the number of first generation college students.

UCLA doubled its number of African American SIRs over last year, and UCSD has reached its highest number ever. But UCSB lost about 10%. Whether or not UCSB's slight dip is due to overlapping applications and changes in the other campuses policies will be studied by Steven Velasco. The Chancellor's Outreach Advisory Committee has formed an African American Academic Advancement Committee to be co-chaired by Michael Young and Shirley Lim. Subcommittees have been formed to focus on the areas of academic support and yield, academic preparation, and faculty engagement. Bill

Jacob represented CAERS on the committee and its report was sent on to COAB in June. COAB and CAERS will review its recommendations next year.

Last year's new policy on admission by exception (A by E) was reviewed by CAERS. The largest subgroup of A by E reviewed were those with exceptionally high read scores for whom a third review of files showed potential that could have been missed in the overall score due to special hardships (for example, loss of a parent coinciding with low grades during one year.) Out of 128 students with high read scores, 42 were admitted last year. It was agreed to follow up and review the progress of these students in subsequent years, but in the meantime to leave the process in place. Since this year was the first year that students with GPA in the 2.80-2.99 range could not be UC eligible (changes approved by BOARS a few years back), CAERS decided applicants in this group that would have been eligible under last years rules should be considered for A by E. There were very few students in the group and no decision was made if this policy should be continued next year.

For the past several years UCSB has admitted all ELC applicants (top 4% of their high school class as determined by UCOP) who meet ELC requirements. This year CAERS reviewed academic performance of ELC students at UCSB. In short, they do fine. Also UCSB admits what we call "school context" eligible students (the top applicants from a high school equal to 3% of their graduating class). CAERS believes that these policies account in part for the diversity we have achieved and UCSB will continue these policies. As with last year, UCSB's entering class is the most diverse in history with one-fourth of the class under represented minority students and we remain well ahead of the other selective campuses in this regard. BOARS will address comprehensive review policies next year and as this conversation progresses it is likely that CAERS will review components of its read process and think about how to improve it. But in the meantime, based on all the above considerations, CAERS has recommend that the current policies, including the A by E rules, remain in place for admission for fall 2008.