

UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

Executive Summary

Purpose (per Bylaw 80): 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 to Faculty:

- At the request of the Committee on Committees and the Senate Leadership, the Undergraduate Council (UgC) proposed a major restructuring of its current operational model, which was approved by the Faculty Legislature, effective Fall 2013.
- UgC's ad hoc Committee on Learning Outcomes completed its review of program learning outcomes for all L&S and CCS majors.
- UgC approved learning outcomes and revised objectives for all subject areas of the General Education Program and for the overall Program.
- UgC has continued to be actively involved in ongoing campus discussions about online instruction and was a major contributor to the campuswide forum, *Online Learning at UCSB*. The Council convened a joint Senate/administrative workgroup that formulated policy related to the review of online courses. Members of UgC participated in planning sessions for the *UC Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI)*.

UgC and its four committees held a total of 60 regularly scheduled 90-minute meetings during the 2012-13 academic year and consulted with faculty executive committees, academic deans, and other campus administrators on numerous issues.

Local Business

Academic Program Reviews

In cooperation with the Program Review Panel, UgC participated in the academic program reviews of the following academic units:

1. Art
2. Asian American Studies
3. College of Creative Studies
4. Computer Engineering
5. Counseling, Clinical and School Psychology
6. Earth Science

UgC responded to requests from the Executive Vice Chancellor regarding membership on the Program Review Panel and departments to be reviewed during the 2014-15 program review cycle.

Academic Proposals

UgC granted final approval for the following actions, effective Fall 2013:

1. discontinuation of the Minor in Speech and Hearing Sciences (SHS) and the SHS concentration within the Interdisciplinary Studies Major
2. discontinuation of the Guitar Emphasis within the Bachelor of Music
3. increase in the overall unit requirement for the Major in Computer Engineering
4. revision of requirements for completion of the following undergraduate programs:
 - BA in Comparative Literature
 - BA and Minor in Feminist Studies
 - BA in French
 - BA and Minor in Italian Studies
 - BA in Political Science
 - BA in Dance

UgC granted preliminary approval to discontinue the BA in Speech and Hearing Sciences.

UgC endorsed proposals for the following actions:

1. establishment of a PhD in Global Studies.
2. establishment of an Academic Unit and a Professional Master's Program in Technology Management
3. disestablishment of the Department of Speech and Hearing
4. discontinuation of the MA and PhD in Speech and Hearing Sciences
5. discontinuation of the MS in Geophysics.
6. name change of the MS in Geological Sciences to MS in Earth Science
7. name change of the PhD in Geological Sciences to PhD in Earth Science

UgC reviewed a proposal to establish a Student Initiated Democratic Education (SIDE) Program at UCSB. During its review of an earlier version of this proposal, members identified numerous concerns, many of which were not resolved in the revised proposal. UgC was therefore unable to support the establishment of a SIDE Program at UCSB.

UgC responded to the following campus policy issues, along with other Senate groups:

1. Proposed Policy on Scheduling Courses within the Academic Curriculum
2. Guidelines for Responding to Appeals from Student Athletes
3. Policy on Review of Online Courses
4. Proposal to Remove Redundant Major References from UCSB Diplomas

Program Learning Outcomes for the General Education Program

During Fall 2012 the Undergraduate Council (UgC) and the L&S Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) voted to approve proposed learning outcomes for UCSB's General Education Program. These outcomes were articulated by the WASC GE Workgroup with the intention that they would be incorporated into the various campus documents that communicate the objectives and requirements of the GE Program, including the *UCSB General Catalog*, *Letters and Science Academic Requirements* (LASAR), and *Guide to Evaluation of Transfer Courses for General Education*. In addition to the learning outcomes, the Workgroup proposed enhanced versions of the currently stated objectives for the respective GE subject areas. It was intended that these too would be incorporated

into existing texts. To facilitate this integration, a joint UgC-FEC workgroup was charged to create a single comprehensive document defining all aspects of the GE Program. The group created a new reference, entitled *UCSB General Education Program Outcomes and Transfer Guide*, which was endorsed by the Undergraduate Council and the L&S and Engineering FECs. This document has replaced the *Guide to Evaluation of Transfer Courses for General Education*, and relevant portions have been used to update the General Catalog and LASAR.

WASC Reaccreditation

UgC reviewed the draft Educational Effective Review Report with particular attention to the essays pertaining to undergraduate education. Given UgC's role in the review and approval of learning outcomes for all undergraduate majors as well as for the GE Program, the Council was pleased to see that these topics were carefully addressed in the Report. Members were also glad to see that a comprehensive plan is in place for the inclusion of programmatic learning outcome assessment within the Academic Program Review process.

UgC Restructuring

Following lengthy discussion and observance of how councils and committees that address undergraduate matters are structured on other UC campuses, UgC proposed the following recommendations to the Faculty Legislature:

1. revise the charge of the Undergraduate Council and decrease the size of its current membership to 12 Senate members
2. re-establish the Committee on Admissions, Enrollment and Relations with Schools as a stand-alone committee with a more explicit charge and increase the number of Senate members from 6 to 8
3. replace UgC's standing Committee on Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policy (CUAPP) with a stand-alone Committee on Courses and General Education with 8 Senate members and a modified version of CUAPP's former charge.
4. disestablish the Committee on Undergraduate Student Affairs and delegate its former duties to the Undergraduate Council

These recommendations were approved by the Faculty Legislature on May 30, with the intention that the Committee on Committees would immediately recruit additional faculty to fill all member positions. New or revised bylaws for each group will be acted on by the Faculty Legislature in Fall 2013.

Representation on Campus Committees

UgC was represented on the Campus Planning Committee, the Enrollment Planning Committee, the General Catalog Committee, and the Task Force on Utilizing Technology.

A member of UgC also served on the team that has been overseeing the phased implementation of online delivery of ESCI evaluations.

Systemwide Business

As UCSB's representative on the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP), David Lea regularly reported to and consulted with the Council regarding issues under discussion by UCEP.

John Park, Chair of the Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Relations with Schools (CAERS), represented UCSB on the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS). He reported to and sought input from both CAERS and UgC regarding several BOARS matters.

Linda Adler-Kassner represented UCSB on the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE) and reported to the Council on items addressed by this committee.

Along with other Senate councils and committees, UgC reviewed and responded to the following proposals and initiatives on which the Academic Council sought formal input from Divisional Senates:

1. Proposed Policy to Expand Open Access to Research Publications at UC
2. Report and Recommendations of the Rebenching Budget Committee
3. Proposed University of California Undergraduate Financial Aid Funding
4. Revision of UC Senate Regulation 476
5. BOARS' proposal to adopt an earlier opening date for students to gain access to the UC admission application

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Relations with Schools (CAERS) – Chaired by John Park

In consultation with Admissions and Institutional Research staff, CAERS monitored UCSB's efforts to admit, recruit, and enroll an excellent and diverse undergraduate student body. All of the committee's deliberations were informed by relevant student data. Chair Park regularly updated CAERS members regarding issues that were being pursued by BOARS and requested committee input on the following topics:

1. disproportionately increasing admission of international and domestic out-of-state students throughout the system
2. comparability of CA residents to out-of-state admits
3. screening of transfer applicants
4. implementation of new UC Transfer Admission Policy
5. revision of UC Senate Regulation 476
6. moving the admissions application opening date from October 1 to August 1
7. challenges related to maintaining compliance with the California Master Plan for Higher Education

CAERS met with Dean Mary Nisbet and Associate Dean Glenn Beltz to discuss ongoing concerns about the admission of applicants into the College of Letters and Science who have not been admitted into their chosen major in the College of Engineering. CAERS stood by its earlier decision not to discontinue this practice, but agreed to revise the letter that is sent to these students upon being offered admission to L&S. The letter now more explicitly states that the offer is for entrance into the College of L&S only, and that the possibility of transferring into Engineering is very difficult and unlikely.

To prepare for implementation of a newly approved UC transfer admission pathway, CAERS delegated the Office of Admissions to begin working with academic departments toward finalizing a list of recommended preparatory courses for each major. Once the list is finalized by CAERS, completion of the appropriate recommended coursework will entitle applicants to a comprehensive review of their application, but with no guarantee of admission. Academic Deans and FECs were also invited to participate in the review of proposed course lists.

Given the changing culture within UC regarding Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG), CAERS considered possible changes to UCSB's TAG program, but no specific changes have been proposed to date.

Some members of CAERS participated in activities associated with the search for a new Director of the UCSB Admissions Office.

Committee on Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policy (CUAPP) – Chaired by Peter Cappello

CUAPP conducted thorough preliminary reviews and made recommendations to UgC regarding all of the academic proposals that were acted on by the full Council. As the committee that holds final approval authority, CUAPP acted on all departmental requests for establishment, discontinuation, or modification of undergraduate courses. The committee also responded to the following items as part of its regular workload:

1. 37 General Education course proposals
2. 163 associate appointment proposals (compared to 181 in 2009-10 and 194 in 2009-10)
3. 6 final exam time change requests
4. 3 Extension course proposals
5. 5 Extension instructor proposals

CUAPP has continued to play a key role in addressing matters related to the submission, review, and approval of online course requests. In collaboration with the L&S and Engineering FECs and relevant campus administrators, CUAPP and UgC developed guidelines for the review of online courses. CUAPP granted approval for the four online courses that were piloted in Summer 2012 to be offered in Summer 2013. A UC-sponsored online course that was developed at UCSB was also approved for a second offering. CUAPP's chair represented UCSB during the ILTI planning meeting that took place at the Office of the President just prior to the release of a July 2013 announcement inviting Senate faculty to submit proposals for online course development projects that meet established criteria for ILTI funding.

Committee on Undergraduate Student Affairs (CUSA) – Chaired by Brice Erickson

In response to comments voiced by members of various academic and administrative units regarding challenges related to increased enrollment of international students, CUSA consulted broadly to assess the extent of these concerns. Over the course of fall and winter quarters, the committee met with: Jan Frodesen, Director, English for Multilingual Students; Garay Menicucci, Associate Director, Office of International Students and Scholars; three newly enrolled international students and one resident assistant; Willie Brown, Executive Director of Housing and Residential Services; and Mary Nisbet, L&S Dean of Undergraduate Education. These interactions facilitated beneficial sharing of information between the various invited participants and kept the Undergraduate Council informed on this issue.

CUSA recommended a revision to the *Guidelines for Responding to Appeals from Student Athletes*, which was approved by the Undergraduate Council. The committee acted on an appeal from a student athlete whose GPA had fallen below the minimum for eligibility to compete in intercollegiate competitions.

CUSA selected the recipients of the *Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research* and the *Fiona Goodchild Award for Excellence as a Graduate Student Mentor of Undergraduate Research*.

Committee on Learning Outcomes (CLO) – Chaired by Brice Erickson

With the establishment of the faculty-led Council on Assessment and the new Assessment Research Group in the Office of Budget and Planning, responsibility for the review of departmental assessment plans was transferred from Ugc's former ad hoc Committee on Learning Outcomes and Assessment. This group's title was therefore changed to Committee on Learning Outcomes (CLO), and its members were allowed to focus entirely on completing their review of program learning outcomes for all UCSB majors by the end of spring quarter. Learning outcomes were approved or 'approved with recommendations' for a total of 68 undergraduate degree programs.

Undergraduate Council Members:

Walid Afifi
Linda Adler-Kassner
Claudio Campagnari
Peter Cappello
Andrew Cleland
David Cleveland
Brice Erickson
Jan Frodesen
David Lea
Daniel Montello
Andrew Norris
Hyung I. Pai
Bradley Paden
John Park
Ann Plane
Susannah Porter
Vickie Scott
Richard Startz
Douglas Thrower
Robert Williams
Jan Frodesen, Chair

Unit 18 Representative: Madeleine Sorapure
Associated Students Representative: Amanda Berry
Graduate Student Association Representative: Gary Fox

Analyst: Debra Blake