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 2016-2017 academic year, CIE

- Provided review of Memorandums of Understanding with international institutions
- Considered at length UCEAP’s Registrar’s Database project and how best to use this resource, including review of UCSB EAP Director Juan Campo’s proposal for pre-approval of General Education course credits (based on the UCSB Registrar’s Database) for courses taken abroad
- Reviewed Interim Co-Dean of Undergraduate Education Jeffrey Stopple’s proposal for an international distinction through the Honors Program
- Implemented the 4th biennial survey of international undergraduate students; analysis of the results to be distributed in fall 2017; responses to results and committee recommendations considered for 2017-18
- Reviewed systemwide policy concerning UC international activities and policy concerning UCIE
International Agreements

Memorandum of Understanding – Universitat D’Alacant
CIE endorsed a new international agreement between the UCSB Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Universitat D’Alacant’s ISIC-IVITRA that will also involve the UCSB Comparative Literature Program. The MOU proposes a collaboration in which the Department of Spanish and Portuguese will be able to offer five new courses taught by a member of the ISIC-IVITRA. These classes will focus on the language and culture of Catalan with an emphasis on Mediterranean and Transatlantic Studies. The Comparative Literature Program also supports the MOU as it will enhance the Program’s Translation Studies emphases.

Memorandum of Understanding – Oxford University (renewal)
The Committee reviewed and endorsed a renewal of the MOU between the UCSB Materials Department and its Cooperative International Science and Engineering Internships Program (CISEI) and Oxford University’s Department of Materials Science. The MOU has been in effect since 2006 and provides for an exchange of undergraduate students: two Oxford University students attend summer UCSB CISEI internships, two UCSB students receive a mentored research internship at Oxford University.

Survey of International Undergraduate Students
This year, CIE conducted its 4th biennial survey of international undergraduate students in February 2017. 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 1,753 undergraduate international students, of which 457 completed the survey, resulting in a final response rate of 26.07%. The survey results were analyzed by a graduate student in the Communications Department and further comparative analysis continued over the summer. The final report will be distributed in fall 2017. Current overall findings are highlighted as follows:

- 58.5% were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall academic experience at UCSB, although comparative data indicates a significant decrease since 2011, when 84% reported they were satisfied or very satisfied.
- Undergraduate international student demographics were 76.5% Chinese, 2.6% Japanese, 2.4% Hong Kongers, 2.4% Taiwanese, 2.0% South Korean, 1.8% Indian, with all other nationalities being less than 1% each.
- 74.1% of respondents were admitted as freshman and 25.9% were admitted as transfers
- Approximately two-thirds of students were enrolled in the College of Letters & Science: Division of Social Sciences (34.6%), Division of Mathematical, Life, and Physical Sciences (36.8%).
- 44.2% of international students reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their overall social experience at UCSB. Comparative data indicates a decline in this area. In 2011, 71.7% stated that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with their opportunities to make friends. However, only 62.3%, 51.1%, and 44.6% of respondents in 2013, 2015, and 2017, respectively, were satisfied or very satisfied with their opportunities to make friends.
- 41.2% agreed or strongly agreed that students of their background are respected on campus, although 13.8% indicated they had been verbally insulted, physically threatened or received unequal treatment because of their race, ethnicity, nationality, or religion.
• The most common issues that respondents had difficulty getting help with were academic difficulties (36.5%), registering for classes (35%), English language skills (23%), and handling stress (20.6%).
• Although the 2015 and 2017 survey results varied slightly, only two of these differences were statistically significant. Between 2015 and 2017, the percentage of respondents who have participated at least once in a student club and organizations decreased from 47.4% in 2015 to 39.4% in 2017. Similarly, the percentage of respondents who have used Career Services decreased from 75.9% in 2015 to 58.7% in 2017.
• In addition, three primary factors emerged as significant, positive predictors of respondents’ satisfaction with their overall academic experience at UCSB: English language proficiency, the availability of general education courses needed to graduate, and the frequency with which the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) met their needs.

CIE will consider the findings and analysis of the survey in fall of 2017. The Committee will disseminate findings and will seek engagement from campus stakeholders to formulate a campus response.

Details of the survey results and Committee recommendations will be finalized in the Committee’s *Report on International Undergraduate Students at UCSB 2017*, which will be available upon request from the Academic Senate.

**Informational Items**

**UCEAP Updates**
In fall 2016, UCEAP Associate Dean Hsiu Zu Ho updated the CIE regarding UCEAP’s Academic Integration (AI) Project, which is broadly defined as the comprehensive integration of UCEAP programs and courses into the curricula of UC campuses. Two goals of AI are further engagement and investment of academic units in study abroad and reduction of barriers to participation in UCEAP for students in all disciplines. To this end, UCEAP developed individual searchable databases of courses previously taken abroad and the type of credit they received; the historical information of these databases offer a basis to consider pre-approvals for particular courses taken abroad. UCEAP AI and dissemination on campus of the UCSB Registrar’s Database has been the impetus for recent campus discussion regarding pre-approval of general education credits for courses taken abroad.

**UCSB Extension Report 2015-16**
UCSB Extension reported a strong decline in 2015-16 international enrollment in Open University. There was a notable decline in Brazilian and Norwegian enrollment due, respectively, to the closing of a program and the lack of desired course availability. Waning enrollment resulted in a 48% drop in revenue share for Open University to academic departments on campus. Continued decline in Open University international enrollment is expected in 2017-18.

**Local Issues**

**Proposal for Pre-Approval of UCEAP Courses at UCSB**
Juan Campo, Director of UCSB EAP, introduced a proposal advocating UCSB’s implementation of a UCEAP General Education (GE) course pre-approval process, using the UCEAP Registrar’s Database as a resource. The pre-approval process seeks to benefit students by removing uncertainty of GE credit and provide an improved Study Abroad experience. CIE was informed that several campuses including UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, UC Berkeley, UCLA are participating in this initiative. CIE endorsed the proposal with the suggestion of a pilot program. This issue is currently under review by other Senate committees.
UCSB EAP-Honors Program Joint Proposal for a Capstone Honors Program
Interim Co-Dean of Undergraduate Education, Jeffrey Stopple, introduced a proposal for an EAP Capstone Honors Program, which would create a transcripted recognition of “International Distinction” for students who complete a yearlong study abroad. CIE holds continued interest in the possibility of such a program and in giving further input as appropriate. CIE’s response to the proposal noted the proposed “International Distinction” should require a significant additional academic component, comparable to that of other undergraduate Honors programs.

Systemwide Issues

Draft Presidential Policy on International Activities.
CIE reviewed the Draft Presidential Policy on International Activities that updates the 2005 Guidelines for the Establishment of Foreign Affiliate Organizations and Foreign Operations. The policy covers all international activities of UCSB faculty, staff, and students, not just those covered by agreement, and further expands its guidelines to include broad issues of ethics, risk, compliance, and campus autonomy as well as clarification regarding levels of approval authority. The Committee did note specific concerns about how issues might be addressed concerning legal and/or ethical guidance in the absence of international laws for any activities that might otherwise have been regulated within the US, which was included with the Divisional response.

Proposed Revisions to Bylaw 182 – University Committee on International Education.
CIE reviewed the proposed changes to the systemwide Senate Bylaw 182 that expands the charge of UCIE to a broader range of international topics and activities. UCIE’s current bylaws only cover faculty governance of student exchange programs associated with UCEAP, which is no longer the principal expression of international activity. The most notable change in the bylaws is the change of UCIE’s role from oversight to advisory. The Committee was in concurrence with the proposed changes but some concern was expressed about whether or not some ambiguous wording in the revisions could affect authority at the divisional level.

Coordination with Administration

Donna Coyne, Associate Director, UCSB Office of Admissions
The Associate Director was consulted regarding current practices for admissions language assessment of international students and related concerns of faculty.

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.

Hsiu-Zu Ho, Associate Dean, UC Education Abroad Program
The Associate Dean of UCEAP informed the Committee of UCEAP’s Academic Integration Project, and specifically, of the UCSB Registrar’s Database. The Database is a 5-year record of courses previously-taken abroad by EAP students and the type of credit they received. There are currently individual databases for seven out of the nine UC campuses.

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.
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 trends within the international community on campus.

Jeffrey Stopple, Interim Co-Dean of Undergraduate Education
The Interim Co-Dean of Undergraduate Education consulted with CIE regarding the creation of an international distinction (transcribed) through the UCSB Honors Program.

Carry-over Issues and Future Initiatives

- Survey results distribution
- International student housing (I-House)
- Campus resources for international students
- Future CIE Workshops, with a focus on discussing survey results with stakeholders
- Peer mentoring program in coordination with OISS
- Mental health needs of international students
- More engagement in academic oversight of EAP; invite UCEAP Associate Vice Provost & Executive Director to speak on operational and programmatic aspects of UCEAP
- Monitor needs of international scholars and visiting faculty

Members:
Heather F. Blurton
Bernard S. Comrie
Andres J. Consoli
Laurie A. Freeman
Jan M. Frodesen
Howard Giles
Tomoyuki Ichiba (started 2/21/2017)
Luc A. Jaeger
Charles Jones
Eric Matthys
Maria D. Iglesias-Rodriguez (ended 2/21/2017)
Juan Campo, EAP Campus Director, Ex Officio (started 1/9/2017)
Francisco Lomeli, Interim EAP Director, Ex Officio (ended 12/9/2016)
Himangshu Chowdhury, Associated Students Representative
Amanda Pinheiro de Oliveira, Graduate Student Association Representative
Marsha G. Bankston, Associate Registrar, Consultant
Cristina M. Carney, OISS, Consultant (started 2/8/17)
Simran Singh, OISS, Consultant

Paul Atzberger, Chair and UCIE Representative (ended 3/31/17, on sabbatical)
Sathya Guruswamy, Chair and UCIE Representative (started 4/1/17)