To be received and placed on file:

The Undergraduate Council developed an independent initiative that was applied to the entering undergraduate class in 2006. Members of the Council recognized that there is a large population of high school students that are receiving their education through the process of home-schooling or through other non-traditional approaches. Offers of admission were given to highly qualified applicants and we are following the academic success of this cohort. They appear to be performing in the top 15% of their entering class. A subcommittee of the Council screened applicants for the 2007 entering class and have recommended admission for another cohort of excellent students.

The Undergraduate Council continued discussions of implementing the process of comprehensive review. Because of the drop in applications and students enrolling in 2005 and 2006, implementation of Phase II of the comprehensive review process has been delayed. All campuses have a committee to set admissions criteria. At UCR, that responsibility rests with the Undergraduate Council. All campuses except UCR have a separate Admissions Committee that evaluates applications in comprehensive review. For the interim, The Undergraduate council will also serve as the Admissions Committee, but appointment of a second committee needs to be investigated when comprehensive review of all applications is initiated.

The continued problem of student applications and enrollment at UCR has been compounded by a systemwide decision to raise the entrance requirements, particularly the increase in the minimum high school GPA, to reduce overall enrollment. The effect of this decision was to cut off a pool of students who had previously been eligible for admission. The undergraduate Council discussed the implications of this decision and recommended that the applications of individuals who would have been eligible for admission to UCR under the criteria used in 2005 would be included in the pool of students eligible for admission by exception. The net effect of this decision would be to maintain the quality of the student population at previous levels.

The Academic Senate Advisory Committee directed a number of standing committees, including the Undergraduate Council, to evaluate the report of the Student Success Task Force and the proposal for the Department of Media and Cultural Studies. We discussed the Student Success Task Force document extensively. Particular attention was paid to the incorporation of the recommendations of the Council on student advising into the report. A series of recommendations were reported back to the Advisory Committee.
The Council took responsibility for reviewing the process of evaluating student mini-grants submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Student Services during the fall quarter. We were not prepared to review grant applications in subsequent quarters.

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