To be received and placed on file:

The Undergraduate Admissions (UGA) Committee met 10 times during 2010-2011.

1. The Conflict of Interest Statement was readopted for 2010-2011.

2. The UGA committee’s top priority was to develop a proposal to revise the Comprehensive Review criteria. The revision was developed in order to conform to the new UC eligibility criteria to take effect in Fall 2012, and also to raise the academic profile of students admitted to UCR, while maintaining the diversity of the student body at UCR and also maintaining the transparency and integrity of the admissions process at UCR. The UGA carefully reviewed student performance data analyzed by Student Affairs Research and Evaluation (SARE) in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Based on its analysis the UGA committee revised the calculation of the Academic Index Score (AIS) that is used to make admissions decisions as follows. The proposed calculation of AIS is based on the following five criteria with weights in parentheses: high school GPA (.5020), SAT Reasoning / ACT plus writing (.4119), first generation status (.0094), low family income (.0094) and the number of advanced placement and international baccalaureate courses (.0673). The proposal was reviewed by all college Executive Committees and by the committees on Preparatory Education and Educational Policy and was approved at the February 15, 2011 Division meeting. The committee also agreed to review 2011 admissions cycle data to determine the extent to which conducting individual applicant reviews for future admissions cycles would be beneficial.

3. The UGA Committee reviewed the Art Department’s proposal to change admissions procedures to require all new students (freshmen and students transferring from community colleges) to submit a portfolio. The committee did not have any objections to this proposal and approved it on January 12, 2011.

4. The UGA Committee discussed the Academic Preparation Program (APP) at UCR through University Extension (UNEX). This pathway program, approved by the UGA committee last year, provides conditional admission to UCR to potential matriculated students who may be deficient in any of three UC regulations at the time they would apply. UNEX asked the UGA committee to consider a proposal to: (1) allow APP students to take college courses prior to their formal application to the University; (2) allow APP students to take the SAT more than one year after high school graduation; and (3) To establish a higher cap for students enrolled in APP (higher than the current cap of 20). UNEX suggested a cap of 100-150 students. The committee discussed many options for the APP including the Admission by Exception (A x E) criteria, submission of a portfolio, and a special faculty review committee to review these applications. On December 1, 2010, the UGA committee unanimously approved APP students to take UCR college courses concurrently; to take the SAT up to 2 years after high school graduation; and proposed a new cap of 125 enrolled APP students.
5. On January 12, 2011, the committee discussed and approved changes made by the Office of Admissions to the “Guidelines for Admission by Exception Supplemental Criteria 2010-2011”. These changes include adjusting the percentage of A x E enrollments reserved for special talent applicants from 2% to 1% and disadvantaged applicants from 4% to 5%. The definition of disadvantaged applicants was extended to include the international students who attended high school or higher level education in another country and are unable to meet traditional UC admission requirements. Two provisions to allow admission of international students as A x E admissions were considered: (1) Up to 30 units of transferrable coursework, taken after the summer following high school graduation, can be considered for freshman admission for international students in the Admission Preparation Program (APP) and in other circumstances as warranted; (2) Freshman applicants who have a gap of up to two years in their educational record may be considered for freshman admission. Wording was added to the guidelines to give ex officio status to the undergraduate admissions staff members that are members of this committee. The faculty who are on the committee will be the voting members and the staff will be non-voting ex officio members who will provide information, respond to questions, and add expertise to the discussion. Other ex officio members include a member from the Learning Center, the Director of Undergraduate Admissions, and an Admissions Counselor. It was also suggested that the Special Review Committee define member term lengths and the process for rotation of members.

6. The committee discussed and unanimously approved the AP Statistics articulation change proposal from the CNAS Executive Committee.

7. The UGA Committee discussed the need for a comprehensive review model for transfer students to prevent over enrollment given the current increase in transfer student applications received. After extensive discussion and data analysis the UGA committee created a proposal for transfer student admissions that discontinues the policy of admitting lower division transfer students and begins using community college GPA as a factor for selective admissions for upper division transfer students similar to how the Academic Index Score (AIS) is used for freshmen admissions. If approved, this new policy will be effective for the fall 2013 admissions cycle. On April 11, 2011 this proposal was circulated to all college Executive Committees and the committees on Preparatory Education and Educational Policy for approval. The committee is hopeful that the proposal will be approved in time to be put on the May 24, 2011 Division meeting agenda.

8. The UGA Committee discussed and responded to the request to change the minimum GPA for admission of transfer students into Psychology majors. The Psychology Department’s proposal was based on its very large number of majors. The department proposed to change the minimum GPA for transfers from 2.4 to 2.7. Per Merlyn Campos, this change would be effective for fall 2013. The committee approved the proposal on March 11, 2011. The UGA committee revisited the Psychology department’s proposal for transfer student admissions as the Psychology department responded with a request to have the minimum GPA change effective for fall 2012 due to the desperate need to control the number of Psychology majors. The committee approved this change to the proposal on April 1, 2011.
The UGA considered a request from UCR Extension’s Academic Preparation Program (APP) to modify the Admission by Exception (AxE) guidelines to (a) make an exception that would allow students to have acquired more than 30 units of college course credit, and still be admissible as Freshman, and (b) allow students in the APP, with GPAs less than 3.4 (the requirement for international students) to receive a conditional admission to UCR as admissions by exception. APP already had five students who had exceeded the 30 unit limit. The UGA approved a proposal to make an exception specifically for those five students, but did not consider any proposal to make exceptions for future students. The UGA did not approve any proposals that would allow for conditional admission for APP students with GPA’s less than 3.4.

J.W. Gary
J.M. Heraty
H. Jung
R.A. Kea
A. Lukaszewski
M. Marks
J.W. Sandoval, Ex Officio
John Faheem (ASUCR Rep.)
S.E. Clark, Chair