To be received and placed on file:

By the end of the academic year, the Undergraduate Council will have held four meetings: October 6, 1997, December 4, 1997, and February 19, 1998, and May 20, 1998. In addition, two members of the Undergraduate Council, together with three officers of the Senate, met with the Chancellor and other members of the Administration on March 23, 1998 to discuss the issue of over-enrollment.

In the October meeting, the Undergraduate Council met with Laurie Nelson, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, and discussed admissions policies and current class data.

In the December meeting, the Undergraduate Council discussed six options in front of the systemwide admissions committee (BOARS) regarding so-called VIP admissions. The members of the committee voted unanimously to adopt the option barring these admissions. The Committee also discussed the CPEC eligibility study and its implications for UCR. We received information from Laurel Nelson of the Admissions office on 1997 third week enrollments and 1998 applications as of November.

The February meeting was taken up with the issue of over-enrollment. Prior to the meeting, it had come to the Undergraduate Council Chair's attention that for a second year UCR would in all likelihood be enrolling a large number of students unaccompanied by a budgetary complement from systemwide. The Committee discussed the potential damage to the University of the continuation of such a policy. The members present voted unanimously for a resolution expressing displeasure over the lack of consultation over decisions on over-enrollment and requiring consultation for any future decisions in this area. The resolution also stated that any anticipated enrollment above the UCR systemwide targeted level should be allowed only if that over enrollment is accompanied by a written commitment of a full budgetary complement for those students from the UC Office of the President. The Committee also heard a report from Piotr Gorecki on recent BOARS meetings, with special emphases on the plans under consideration to improve access for underrepresented groups and regions in the state.

The March meeting with the Chancellor and other members of the Administration took up the Resolution passed in February. In addition to Steven Brint, Chair of the Undergraduate Council, and Piotr Gorecki, a member of the Undergraduate Council, the following Senate officers were present at the meeting: Irwin Sherman, Chair of the Riverside Division, Justin Roberts, Vice-Chair of the Riverside Division, and Raymond Russell, Chair of Planning and Budget. In addition to the Chancellor, the following
members of the Administration were present: David Warren, Executive Vice Chancellor, Carmel Myers, Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Enrollment Management, and Gretchan Bolar, Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget. The meeting included a lengthy discussion of over-enrollment. The Chair of the Undergraduate Council explained the concerns of the Senate about the potential detrimental impact to the campus of over-enrollment. He also discussed problems in the consultation process. The Chancellor argued that he had discussed the issue at several public appearances and twice with the Advisory Committee. The Chancellor argued that the campus had not been in a position to develop mechanisms for selective admissions this year and indicated that he was confident that the legislature and Governor would provide funds for over-enrollment. The meeting adjourned with an agreement to revisit the issue in the summer when both the extent of over-enrollment for 1998-99 and the budget to cover these students would be known.

The May meeting will include a report on recent meetings of BOARS by Steven Brint, a report on the most recent admissions data by Laurel Nelson, further discussion of the over-enrollment issue, and a report on models of selective admissions by Vice Chancellor Myers and her staff.

The Undergraduate Council has been very pleased with the increase in the number of students applying to UCR and in the quality and diversity of this applicant group. We attribute these positive developments to the good work of the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor Myers, Assistant Vice Chancellor Sandoval, Admissions Director and others closely involved with recruitment. At the same time, we remain deeply concerned about the impact of over-enrollment on the quality of education provided at UCR. A major issue for the Undergraduate Council in academic year 1998-99 will be the continued monitoring of over-enrollment and movement toward the implementation of selective admissions in the event that the State of California fails to provide funds for over-enrollment.

K. D. Atkinson
S. Bowler
P. Giorecki
M. Midland
C. Myers
E. Lee, ASUCR Representative
S. Brint, Chair