

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 7, 2020

PRESENT: S. Vidussi, Chair; G. Long, Vice Chair; O. Long, UCEP Rep.; J. Allison; G. Funning; E. Goodman; I. Kaloshian; C. Lussier; A. Sood; J. Weems; B. Wong; F. Zarinebaf

GUESTS: K. Dominguez, GSA Student Rep.; M. Ramirez, ASUCR Student Rep.

ABSENT: B. Babcock; A. Ray; C. Zhou

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00 AM.

The Chair informed the Committee that the Senate Chair has tasked them with the review of the Standardized Testing Taskforce and a recommendation from the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) to eliminate the admissions requirement for the ACT/SAT essay, which the Committee will review at their March 6, 2020 meeting. Because of the length of these reports the Chair will send the Committee these reports for review in advance of the next meeting. The Chair confirmed with the Committee that a self study was received from the University Writing Program and asked members to consider serving on a subcommittee for the internal review of the program.

The Committee voted to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2020 meeting.

The Committee's representative to the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP) Owen Long provided the Committee with an update from the February 3, 2020 meeting. UCEP discussed a policy for incarcerated students and received an update from the taskforces for standardized testing and teaching evaluations. Professor Long summarized the Standardized Testing Taskforce's report and recommendations. UCEP also discussed the case of deported students and asked representatives to determine if their campus had a policy for deported students to complete their degree. The Committee discussed this concern and it was noted that UCR does not have a process for deported students to complete their degree.

The Committee invited the Director of the University Honors Program Rich Cardullo to the meeting to discuss the Honors program and clarify how departmental honors programs differ from the University Honors Program. Director Cardullo summarized the Honors Program and informed the Committee of the goal to establish an Honors College at UCR. Director Cardullo informed the Committee that participation in the honor's program has increased over the years and that the program hopes to grow from their current enrollment of 750 students to 1,000. Director Cardullo shared with the Committee that a 2013 review of the program recommended that the department honor's programs align with the University Honors Program and created distinctions in honors so that there is a separation between the Honors Program and department. The Committee discussed the issue of students requesting to do capstone projects outside of their discipline and Director Cardullo informed the Committee that students do have to meet faculty member's criteria for their capstone project. Director Cardullo concluded his presentation to the Committee and shared that

the program is working with alumni and development to summarize additional funding. The Committee discussed a concern that faculty teaching honors courses and are not able fulfill course instruction for their department.

The Committee reviewed the list of programs that will be reviewed in the 2020-2021 academic year.

The Committee reviewed the Final Findings and Recommendations report from the review of the Biology undergraduate program. The Committee recommended that the recommendation for the review of the Life Sciences Core Curriculum be expanded to recommend more flexibility for prerequisite requirements. The review subcommittee chair will update the report with the Committee's recommendations and finalize the report.

The Committee reviewed the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences response to the Preliminary Findings and Recommendations Report from their internal review noting that the program now wishes to disestablish their program. The Committee recommended that the Final Findings and Recommendations Report be drafted to recommend that the program proceed with the process to disestablish the major.

The Committee reviewed the Preliminary Findings and Recommendations report from the internal review of the R'Courses program and voted to approve the report.

The Committee reviewed the revised transfer proposal to transfer the pre-business program from CHASS to the School of Business and was generally supportive of the proposal. The Committee recognized that the proposal on the long run will be beneficial to the students. Some lingering concern was noted that the Executive Summary of the response to the Senate review of the initial proposal did not fully address how the School plans to address all the Committee's recommendations. The Committee remains concerned that the burden for the program's lower division course work will remain with CHASS. Additionally, the Committee was concerned with the School's statement that students will be encouraged to participate in study abroad and internship programs as they potentially could be financially burdensome to students. The Committee recommended that the School work to provide options for internships that will not financially burden students. A majority of members voted to support the proposal. The Chair will send a memo to the Senate Chair noting the outcome of the vote and also the Committee's concerns with the proposal.

With no other business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 12:15PM.

Approved: April 3, 2020

Prepared by: Beth Beatty