

COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
NOVEMBER 15, 2019
MINUTES

PRESENT: S. Tan, Chair; W. Cleaves; M. Haselhuhn; J. Kelliher; W. Nida; W. Zhang; E. Engelschall, Ex Officio

GUESTS: S. Heil, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research

ABSENT: Q. Wang

Chair Sheldon Tan called the meeting to order at 10AM.

The Committee approved the minutes from the October 18, 2019 meeting.

The Chair provided the Committee with an update from the November 1, 2019 meeting of BOARS. BOARS reviewed software to assist with campuses who have holistic review as part of their admissions process. The Chair summarized each campus' holistic review process as it was presented at the BOARS meeting. BOARS received an update from the Taskforce to examine the use of standardized testing scores as an admissions requirement and were informed that there is much pressure to eliminate standardized testing from the UC's admission requirements. The Committee discussed the implications for both removing and retaining the requirement and the Chair informed the Committee that UCR needs to begin to consider how to move forward without the requirement. The Chair shared that BOARS discussed the use of the Smarter Balance test as a potential replacement for the SAT/ACT score requirement.

Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services and Ex Officio member Emily Engelschall updated the Committee on the audit of undergraduate admissions that resulted from the admissions scandal last year and informed the Committee that the first phase of the audit has been completed. Interim AVC Engelschall is working to address the recommendations that resulted from the audit and has developed a conflict of interest policy for admissions staff and form for the Special Review Committee (SRC) to finalize their decisions on student's admissions.

Interim AVC Engelschall updated the Committee on the Winter 20 admissions cycle for transfer students and shared that the percentage of students who have submitted their intent to register (SIR) is eight percent higher than last year. Additionally, UCR is projected to meet the goal of the admission of 350 transfer students.

Interim AVC Engelschall updated the Committee on the Fall 20 admissions cycle and informed the Committee that applications opened on November 1, 2019 and the deadline for submission of applications is November 30, 2019.

The Committee reviewed a proposed change to the Admission by Exception (AxE) Guidelines to include an appeal process for the SRC. The Committee was supportive of the proposed change with the addition of some clarifying language. Interim AVC Engelschall presented to the Committee a timeline for all of the proposed changes that need to be made to the AxE Guidelines to satisfy the audit's recommendations. The Committee also discussed a proposed change to the AxE Guidelines to verify an applicant's special talent. Interim AVC Engelschall informed the Committee that the proposed change will be sent to

departments for feedback and that a revised document will be ready for the Committee's review at the December 2019 meeting.

The Committee received a summary from the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research Scott Heil on the modeling and pilot review of applications that was conducted last year with the rubric developed by the Committee for holistic review. AVC Heil informed the Committee that his Office reviewed additional measures that could be used to consider admissions of students and non of the factors documented a benefit for increasing diversity or academic success of students. The Committee discussed the benefits and challenges of creating a UCR model based on another campuses holistic review process. Interim AVC Engelschall informed the Committee that the Office of Undergraduate Admissions does not have the resources to conduct another pilot review this year and shared that holistic review has not increased diversity on campuses that use the model. The Committee will continue discussions on this topic at future meetings.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:50AM.

Approved: December 17, 2019

Prepared by: Beth Beatty, Committee Analyst