

COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
DECEMBER 13, 2019
MINUTES

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

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

ABSENT: J. Kelliher

Chair Sheldon Tan called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.

The Committee approved the minutes from the November 15, 2019 meeting.

The Chair provided the Committee with an update from the December 6, 2019 meeting of BOARS. BOARS discussed Admissions by Exception (AxE) at campuses and how it needs to be adjusted to reflect recommendations from the audit. Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services and ex officio member Emily Engelschall summarized how UCR applicants that are admitted through AxE. BOARS discussed the holistic review process at each campus and how communication needs to be updated to inform students of the process. BOARS discussed the possibility of eliminating the SAT as an admissions requirement pending the review by the Systemwide Taskforce. The Committee discussed how UCR could adjust admissions criteria if the SAT is eliminated with potentially adjusting the AIS and using ELC rankings and the number of A-G courses taken.

The Committee reviewed the proposed change to the admissions requirements for the B.S. in Business Administration and was supportive of the changes.

Interim AVC Engelschall updated the Committee on the audit of undergraduate admissions that resulted from the admissions scandal last year and informed the Committee that the second phase of the audit is almost complete with the release of the audit report scheduled for early 2020. Interim AVC Engelschall is working to address the recommendations that resulted from the audit and has drafted proposed changes to the AxE guidelines. The California state audit of UC admissions will begin in January 2020 and Interim AVC Engelschall reminded the Committee that UCR was not selected for the audit.

Interim AVC Engelschall updated the Committee on the Fall 20 admissions cycle and informed the Committee that UCR is close to having finalized the target of 4,800 new resident freshmen students and 2,400 new resident transfer students. Interim AVC Engelschall informed the Committee that all campuses are about 700 students short of their targets and UCR will work to increase summer enrollment to meet the shortfall for Fall enrollment.

Interim AVC Engelschall update the Committee on the Winter 20 transfer admissions cycle and informed the Committee that there are currently 345 transfer students admitted for the Winter Quarter and it is expected that the number will grow by around 50 students by the start of the quarter.

The Committee reviewed a proposed change to the Admission by Exception (AxE) Guidelines to include an Appendix for guidelines for admission for special talent. The Committee recommended that the definition of "Applicants Demonstrating Academic Promise" be renamed or combined with one of the

other two categories as many of the subjects listed were vague. The Committee recommended that “Applicants Demonstrating Academic Promise” be combined with “Applicants from Disadvantaged Backgrounds”. Interim AVC Engelschall will work to revise the document based on the Committee’s recommendations for review at a future meeting.

The Committee discussed possibility of the elimination of standardized testing as an admissions requirement and changes to the AIS and potential holistic review models. The Committee discussed ways that the metrics and measures can be rearranged that will allow UCR to continue to increase diversity. Interim AVC Engelschall and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research Scott Heil will pull items from the application that are machine readable and will bring them to the Committee for review at the next meeting. The Committee considered what criteria would be beneficial to begin modeling a revised AIS score. The Committee discussed holistic review and opined that UCR does not need to start from scratch but can rather develop a model based on another campus. Interim AVC Engelschall recommended that the Committee determine UCR’s values for admission and how they can be reflected on the application.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:00PM.

Approved: January 31, 2020

Prepared by: Beth Beatty, Committee Analyst