

COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
MAY 15, 2020
MINUTES

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

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

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

The Chair informed members that the Committee's proposed changes to the Admissions by Exception (AxE) Guidelines and proposed modification to the AxE Guidelines for the Fall 20 admissions cohort will be considered for final approval at the May 26, 2020 Division Meeting.

The Committee approved the minutes from the April 17, 2020 meeting.

The Chair provided the Committee with an update from the May 1, 2020 meeting of BOARS. BOARS discussed the impact of COVID-19 on admissions and enrollment and how the AxE Guidelines can be modified in regards to non resident students.

The Committee reviewed guidance from the Division on grading options for Summer 20 and the Committee noted support for UCR to continue with the same grading options from Spring 20 into Summer 20. The Chair will summarize the Committee's recommendation in a memo to the Senate Chair.

The Committee reviewed guidance from the Division on student fees beyond tuition and did not have any concerns related to the Committee's charge of undergraduate admissions. The Chair will summarize the Committee's response in a memo to the Senate Chair.

The Committee reviewed a proposal to extend COVID-19 remote instruction at UCR and the Committee discussed potential options for instruction in Fall 20. The Committee noted that the decision for instruction will affect Fall 20 admissions and the concern that there will be a negative impact on yield of admissions. The Committee opined that in their response the impact of that decision to continue remote instruction in the Fall on undergraduate admissions and that the longer it takes for a decision to be announced, the less time students have to consider their options for admissions. The Committee recommended that their response to the proposal state that not having an instruction policy in place for Fall 20 can complicate admissions and that the administration consider providing guidance for the mode of instruction in coordination with the other UC campuses. The Chair will summarize the Committee's discussion in a draft memo to the Senate Chair that will be sent to the Committee for consideration of final approval.

Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Services and Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Ex Officio member Emily Engelschall provided the Committee with an update on the audit of undergraduate admissions. AVC Engelschall shared that of the 30 recommendations from both phases of the audit, UCR has achieved all but two. The remaining two recommendations will be addressed by the June 1, 2020 deadline. AVC Engelschall reminded the Committee that the recommendations will be implemented for the Fall 21 admissions cycle.

AVC Engelschall informed the Committee that the UC decision regarding standardized testing will be finalized at the May 21, 2020 Regent's Meeting. UCR Chancellor Kim Wilcox will be attending the meeting to advocate in favor of retaining standardized testing as an admissions requirement.

AVC Engelschall provided the Committee with an update on the Fall 2020 admissions cycle and shared with the Committee that other UC campuses are using their wait lists and adjusting California resident targets to make up for shortfalls in nonresident admissions. UCR has made 2,500 offers from the wait list and anticipate making further offers from the list to make up any admissions shortfalls. AVC Engelschall informed the Committee that UCR has had a higher than usual melt rate then this time last year and anticipates the summer melt rate to be higher than last year as well.

The Subcommittee formed to revise UCR's Academic Index Score (AIS) for the Fall 21 admissions cycle to reflect the modification to the admissions process that allows for a test exception due to the cancellation of SAT and ACT testing presented to the Committee an analysis of data for proposed new AIS scenarios. The Committee voted to support proposed model 2.5, which includes consideration of Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC) in the AIS.

Additionally, the Subcommittee informed the Committee of the need to operationalize the AIS for students who did take the SAT and ACT and if they should have the ability for their AIS to be run through two different models. The Committee discussed potential bias for this action as students who take the tests have an opportunity to get a higher AIS score. The Committee requested additional analysis in an effort to determine the best process. The Committee will meet the last week in May in order to finalize the model so that it can be proposed to the Division.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:11PM.

Approved: May 29, 2020

Prepared by: Beth Beatty, Committee Analyst