

2017-18 Annual Report of the Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education

In fulfilling the charge set by the Berkeley Division by-laws, the Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education (AEPE) accomplished the following activities during the 2017-18 academic year. Professor Ignacio Navarrete from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese served as chair.

I. Admissions Policies and Review Guidelines

- Freshman Admissions Policy (September 15, 2017)
- Freshman Selection Procedures (October 13, 2017)
- College of Chemistry Freshman Reader Guidelines (October 13, 2017)
- College of Engineering Freshman Reader Guidelines (October 13, 2017)
- Management, Entrepreneurship, & Technology (MET) Freshman Reader Guidelines (October 13, 2017)
- L&S Lower Division Advanced Standing Referral Guidelines (January 26, 2018)
- L&S Advanced Standing Admission Scoring Guidelines (January 26, 2018)
- L&S Advanced Standing Selection Criteria (January 26, 2018)
- L&S Advanced Standing Tie-Breaking Procedures (January 26, 2018)
- L&S Transfer Quality Control Reviews (January 26, 2018)
- L&S Transfer Admission Appeals Policy (January 26, 2018)

II. Key AEPE Issues

Policy Revisions

A. Freshman Policies

- **Augmented Review:** In summer 2017, the UC Regents approved an augmented review policy that limit the letters of recommendation (LORs) to 15% and all the UC campuses can only accept the LORs for augmented review.

Contributors to Committee Meetings

- Chris Patti, Chief Campus Counsel, explained laws and policies on confidentiality with respect to applications and admissions.
- Amy Jarich, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor of Admissions and Enrollment and OUA Director, gave updates on the admissions cycle.
- Greg Dubrow, Director of Analysis, Policy, and Planning, OUA, presented freshman and transfer applicant/admit/SIR profiles throughout the year, and additional data as requested by the committee.

- Susan Pendo, Associate Director, OUA, and Director Dubrow conducted two “mini norming sessions.”
- Phil Kaminsky, Executive Associate Dean, College of Engineering met with AEPE on October 13, 2017 to discuss the Management, Entrepreneurship & Technology (M.E.T.) freshman admissions guidelines.
- Oscar Dubón, Vice Chancellor of Equity and Inclusion met with AEPE on December 8, 2017 to discuss yielding and diversity in admissions.
- Dean Jennifer Wolch, College of Environmental Design and Nina Robinson, Strategic Planning Project Leader met with the committee on February 9, 2018 to discuss the Enrollment Task Force.

Committee Member Participation

- Committee members participated in the AEPE Faculty Review of applications.
- Chair Navarrete represented AEPE on the Coordination Board for Admissions, Financial Aid, and Enrollment Management.
- Chair Navarrete co-chaired on the Student Athlete Admissions Committee (SAAC).
- Chair Navarrete co-chaired the Strategic Planning Enrollment Task Force.
- Professor Frank Worrell represented AEPE on the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) and reported on that committee’s meetings throughout the year. Chair Navarrete and Professor Kunxin Luo were alternates.
- Professor Darlene Francis represented AEPE on the Student Athlete Admissions Committee (SAAC).
- Professor Brandi Catanese represented AEPE on the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE).

III. AEPE review of Academic Senate and Campus Policies and Issues

- Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation 424.A.3.
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Lisa Alvarez-Cohen on October 16, 2017.
- Management, Entrepreneurship, & Technology Freshman Reader Guidelines
Comments forwarded to COE Executive Associate Dean Phil Kamisky on November 6, 2017.
- Experiences under Augmented Review” Annual Report
Comments forwarded to BOARS Chair Henry Sanchez and Associate Vice President of Undergraduate Admissions Stephen Handel on December 18, 2017.
- Undergraduate Council’s Capped Major Report
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Lisa Alvarez-Cohen on April 10, 2018.

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IV. Unfinished Business and Future Action Items

- Topics for the Summer Study focused on 1) the new transfer guarantees and 2) recruitment of the new Director of Admissions.

See Appendix A for AEPE summary of the student athlete admissions policy.

APPENDIX A: STUDENT ATHLETIC ADMISSIONS SUMMARY

The Student Athlete Admissions Committee is co-chaired by the Chair of AEPE and by the Director of Undergraduate Admissions. There is additional representation from the Undergraduate Council, the College of Letters and Science, and the Academic Senate, and we consult with the Athletic Study Center, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.

The Committee considers cases of recruited student athletes who are not normally UC-eligible; this standard (set by UCOP) means that, per the UC Master Plan, a student is in the top approximately 12.5% of California high school graduates. In practice, this translates into a 3.0 high school GPA, a 1000 combined score on SATs (or comparable ACTs), and meeting the a-g distribution requirements for high school work. Athletes who meet the UC-eligible standard are admitted directly by the Office of Admissions. By policy, there has been a glide path, now fully realized, to a goal of each team recruiting at most 20% of its roster from non-UC-eligible students. This means that in the long run, the rosters of each team will be 80% UC-eligible. Exceptions to the annual recruitment cap are made for small teams that recruit very few new students, so long as they maintain (or are moving towards) the 80% total roster goal.

All teams met the 20% cap in 2018-19, with the exception of a single team which recruited only 2 students and which maintains a total roster of 89% UC-eligible students. A few teams have not yet met the 80% goal in their total rosters, but all of those are making progress towards that goal.

In 2017-18 SAAC considered 20 applicants, of which 15 were admitted. Two others were admitted but deemed to be “technical cases” that did not count against the team’s 20% cap. Usually these are foreign applicants with excellent records who did not meet the a-g distribution because of differences in educational systems. Two applicants were admitted with conditions that they failed to meet, and the admissions offer was subsequently withdrawn. Only one applicant was turned down by SAAC, the same number as in 2016-17. This small number of rejections is testament to the careful work of screening and recruiting that takes place before cases come to SAAC.

There were no cases of requests to reclassify students on the basis of their subsequent achievement, although that is a provision of the policy.

How does SAAC make its evaluations? We see a completed admissions application for each student (including a letter of recommendation), and as with all undergraduate admissions, we pay special attention to qualitative or holistic factors that enable us to get a fuller picture of the applicant and his or her circumstances. In particular, these include the four “personal insight questions” or essays, and the letters of recommendation. In the case of student athlete applicants, we also have the benefit of information from interviews conducted by the Athletic Department, the Office of Admissions, and the Athletic Study Center. These give us a good picture of the potential student’s character and commitment to academics. In many cases there are significant differences between the test scores and GPA’s, which allow SAAC, with the benefit of the added holistic information, to arrive at a positive decision. Each case, each student, is a different story.

As the new Athletic Admissions Policy fully kicks in, the results should have an effect not only at the point of admission, but throughout the students’ academic careers. Thus there should be an improvement in academic progress and ultimately graduation rates, factors that are beyond SAAC’s direct control. There should also be an improvement in the important “academic culture” of each team. We see ourselves as a step in a process that then hands over the young

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people to the Athletic Study Center and the College of Letters and Science, who will continue the vital nurturing process. The Athletic Study Center in particular is a very important partner in this process, and without its continuing support, SAAC's efforts would be pointless.

In summary, the new Athletic Admissions Policy has been a success and we look forward to continued progress.