



320 STEPHENS HALL  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

March 8, 2016

CHANCELLOR NICHOLAS DIRKS  
EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR AND PROVOST CLAUDE STEELE

*Subject: Expectations on admitting "ELC only" students*

Dear Nick and Claude,

On March 7, 2016, the Divisional Council (DIVCO) discussed the enclosed briefing document on Expectations on admitting "ELC only" students, submitted by the Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education and Associate Vice Chancellor Anne De Luca. DIVCO endorsed the "Decisions" portion of the briefing, but did not have sufficient time and information to evaluate the points in "What the Chancellor Needs to Know."

DIVCO also noted its serious concern about and objection to the process that led to this mandate. With respect, the Office of the President (UCOP) should be reminded that Regents Standing Order 105.2.a delegates to the Academic Senate the responsibility to determine the conditions for admission to the University. UCOP's mandate, absent appropriate consultation with the Senate, violates both the spirit of shared governance and the letter of the Standing Order.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Hermalin', enclosed in a rectangular box.

Benjamin Hermalin  
Chair, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate  
Schneider Distinguished Professor of Finance & Professor of Economics

Encl.

Cc: Thomas Goldstein, Chair, Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education  
Anne De Luca, Associate Vice Chancellor for Admissions and Enrollment  
J. Daniel Hare, Chair, Academic Senate (system-wide)  
Ralph Aldredge, Chair, Board of Admissions & Relations with Schools (BOARS)

<b>BRIEFING FOR EVCP AND CHANCELLOR – ADMITTING “ELC ONLY” STUDENTS</b>	
TO:	Chancellor Nicholas Dirks and EVCP Claude Steele
PREPARED BY:	AEPE Chair Professor Tom Goldstein and Associate Vice Chancellor Anne De Luca, with input from AEPE members
DATE:	<b>March 2, 2016</b>
AGENDA TOPIC	Expectations on admitting “ELC Only” students

**What the Chancellor Needs to Know**

Approximately 3,000 applicants in the freshman class are noted to be “ELC Only,” meaning they are eligible for a space in the University of California by virtue of their class rank alone. The Office of the President would like each campus to reserve 4% of the admit offers in the freshman class for these students, regardless of the recommendation made after a holistic review of their file.

In 2015, 2.3% of the admits in Berkeley’s freshman class were students who had an “ELC Only” designation. Statistically, these students are more likely to be first generation, low income, from low API schools, and have lower academic indicators than other students who are offered admission. They are also more likely to be from underrepresented minority groups. Further, analysis by OP confirms once they are on campus, ELC Only students are less successful in the first year and at reaching 4- and 6-year graduation rates comparable with non ELC-only peers.

Faculty members who are on Senate committees at the systemwide (BOARS) and campus (AEPE) levels have expressed concerns with OP (a) mandating a specific admission rate for a set of students, regardless of their holistic review recommendations, and (b) making this mandate without consulting either BOARS or the campus admissions committees on any of the campuses. Further, they raise questions about the carrying capacity at each campus to support these students, given their lagging academic indicators.

**Budgetary Implications and/or Requests**

None

**Decisions**

OP has asked Chancellors, EVCPs, and Academic Senate representatives to agree to reserve 4% of their admission slots for ELC Only students. The recommendation by AEPE and Admissions and Enrollment is to carefully review these students, but continue to follow the results that come from a full holistic review of the file, and not commit to a specific percentage.

**Proposed next steps**

Share guidance with Admissions and Enrollment as to whether or not Berkeley will participate in this pilot program for Fall 2016 admission offers.

**Attachments**

None