

May 14, 2012

## **CLARE SHERIDAN, SENIOR POLICY ANALYST, UCOP**

### **RE: BOARS Proposal on Transfer Admissions**

BOARS proposes to increase the emphasis on preparation in the intended major in applications for transfer admission. The aim of the policy is to ensure transfer student success once they matriculate. The policy also formalizes two new pathways to preparation for transfer admission: Completion of a UC Transfer Curriculum (in the relevant major) and completion of an approved Associate Degree for Transfer (in the relevant major) as developed by the California community colleges.

The Davis Division of the Academic Senate forwarded the referenced proposal to all divisional standing committees as well as Faculty Executive Committees within each college/professional school. Comments were received from Letters and Science Executive Committee, Admissions and Enrollment, Research and College Committee: CAES and Undergraduate Council.

**Majority Consensus:** The majority of the committees support the new pathways for transfer students. Three of the committees that responded expressed concern about the level of academic department involvement in creating the transfer curriculum. In some cases, clarification of the responsibilities associated with the involvement would resolve the issue, in another it is a matter of the availability of faculty at all.

#### Letters and Science Executive Committee

The L&S Executive Committee has reviewed the BOARS proposal on transfer admissions and applauds the addition of two new pathways for transfer students to gain admission to UC. However, we are somewhat concerned by the possible level of involvement required by academic departments in the implementation of this proposal. In particular, the final paragraph on p. 12 should be clarified to make it clear that departments would be reviewing subject-matter requirements and not individual student applications. The committee views the latter as the responsibility of the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

#### Admissions and Enrollment

Most of the concerns addressed by the Davis Division Committee on Admissions and Enrollment (CAE) regarding the original draft of the BOARS transfer proposal have been adequately addressed. There remains some concern, however, about (a) whether faculty involvement would be sufficient for development of the UC Transfer Curricula and (b) the challenge of major preparation with declining course availability at California community colleges, which could potentially result in fewer qualified transfer applicants.

CAE recommends the following additional (underscored) verbiage to the statement of the second transfer pathway found on page 6 of the revised proposal, and anywhere else it appears, in order to make it clear that the seven-course requirement of [SR 476 C](#) is applicable thereto.

(2) Completion of an SB 1440 Associate Degree for Transfer in the applicant's chosen major along with the minimum seven courses currently specified in [SR 476 C](#), 60 (90 quarter) UC-transferrable units, and the minimum overall GPA established by the campus to which they apply<sup>5</sup>.

College Committee: College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (Council of School and College Faculty Chairs – Agriculture)

We are concerned about the availability of faculty for the development of the transfer curriculum. Our college has also seen a decrease in transfer students that have required courses due to a decrease in course offerings at the community college level. The later may affect the ability of students to transfer.

Undergraduate Council

We are pleased with the attention paid in the revised document to issues of resources for evaluation and for the importance of communicating requirements to departments. We support this proposal.

Sincerely,



Linda F. Bisson, Chair  
Davis Division of the Academic Senate  
Professor: Viticulture and Enology

LFB:sas