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May 12, 2015

MARY GILLY, CHAIR

UC Academic Council
1111 Franklin Street, 12th floor
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Re: Senate Bylaw 182 Amendment-University Committee on International Education

The proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 182 – University Committee on International Education (UCIE) was forwarded to all Davis Division of the Academic Senate standing committees and Faculty Executive Committees from the schools and colleges. Responses were received from the Committee on Elections, Rules & Jurisdictions (CERJ), Graduate Council (GC), and International Education (CIE).

The Divisional Academic Senate has a few areas of improvement for bylaw 182, mostly pertaining to graduate education and authorization over courses taken abroad:

There are fairly broad terms used in the proposed revisions. In particular, no distinction is made between international students in undergraduate and graduate programs, nor for UC students in undergraduate and graduate programs studying abroad. [UCIE's Vision Statement](#) similarly does not clearly identify the affected student populations, although it appears to pertain mostly to undergraduate students. Whereas some of the needs are similar, there are also remarkable differences in the circumstances and needs of undergraduate and graduate students. The proposed changes to Bylaw 182 represent several significant extensions of UCIE's responsibilities, not the least of which is an extension into graduate matters. It would be helpful for the bylaw to include explicit references to undergraduate and graduate students, in a way that elucidates the scope and potential nuances of the proposed changes with respect to graduate education and research.

An additional issue is that although the Regental delegated Senate control over instructional matters is embodied in the review of international programs in the amended Bylaw 182, the method of curricular control is not explicitly considered. For example, Bylaw 182 B. 6. v. gives UCIE the power of authorization and supervision of courses and curricula of the UC Education Abroad Program but does not indicate the manner and conditions of supervision, nor the frequency of formal supervision activities. If UC Education Abroad Program curriculum, offered at a partner institution, is modified, shouldn't UCIE or other appropriate Academic Senate bodies review the modified curriculum to verify that it still matches Academic Senate expectations for the class?

While there is support for the Bylaw 182 amendment, the resource implications resulting from the changes, both in terms of support for the committee's work and the implications on the campuses, should be weighed before implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Knoesen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

André Knoesen, Chair
Davis Division of the Academic Senate
Professor: Electrical and Computer Engineering