

From: Rajiv Narayan [<mailto:rajiv.narayan@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 2:22 PM

To: Linda Bisson; Jon D. Rossini; Gina Anderson

Subject: Student-Led Courses

Hello all,

Early last year I began working on a student-led course program through the Chancellor's Undergraduate Advisory Board. Until recently I'd been working with Robert Powell to introduce an administrative infrastructure for the program to this campus. When he left for the system-wide senate this Fall, he suggested I reach out to you three to continue this process.

As you may know, it's already possible for undergraduates to teach their own courses through the 198 Group Study courses offered in each department. While most students are unaware, a handful of students (including myself) have facilitated courses under sponsoring professors. UC Berkeley has a similar 98/198 course offering, and their administration has worked with student government to build a set of regulations and programs to govern the process, assuage the concerns of sponsoring faculty, and guide students interested in teaching their own courses. This semester, 181 student courses are offered through Berkeley DeCal program. In fact, the only reason I knew I could teach a course here was because my older brother taught a DeCal course when he was an undergraduate.

The purpose of this email to is bring each of you up to speed on what Dr. Powell and I were looking at, and ask whether it would be possible to meet with one or more of you. I don't want this email to sound like I consider the program to be an inevitability, but I do want to give you everything I can to show you how it can be implemented:

Special Studies at UC Berkeley: <http://vpapf.chance.berkeley.edu/specialstudies/index.html>

Student-Facilitated Group Study Courses, as per the Cal Committee on Courses Handbook:<http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/committees/coci/handbook2#2-4-1>

Cal Academic Senate Regulations governing 98/198 courses: <http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/committees/re/regulations-university-california-berkeley-division-academic-senate#230>

I should also note that funding for a Davis-version of DeCal (called SLED: Student-Led Education) is already set aside in the ASUCD Office of VP. From my meeting with DeCal representatives last year, I understand that the student-program orients students through workshops, online guides, and office hours where the potential-student-facilitators can seek support building or running courses. They also provide copy-cards for student-teachers to make a reasonable number of prints and copies for their class free of charge. ASUCD is fine supporting these functions. When I met with the VP this week, we agreed not to make any moves before this is considered by the Academic Senate. But the support is there!

Please let me know of your thoughts and concerns.

Best,

Rajiv Narayan