Davis Division Academic Senate

Request for Consultation Responses

Proposal to Adopt Earlier Application Opening

June 12, 2013

The UC Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) is seeking divisional input regarding a proposal to move up the opening of the Undergraduate Application from October 1 to August 1, beginning in fall 2014. BOARS has been asked to consider how an earlier opening might impact the timeline for faculty decisions about changes or updates to programs and majors, which are currently required by September 1, but would be required by July 15. A discussion paper regarding the proposal is provided.
June 12, 2013

Buno Nachtergaele
Academic Senate Chair (Davis Division)

Dear Bruno,

A subcommittee of the Committee on Admissions and Enrollment consisting of me, Rena Zieve, Walter Robinson, and Darlene Hunter reviewed and discussed the document entitled “Proposal to Adopt an Earlier Application Opening Date.” We see no reason to object to the proposal. Although an earlier opening date could necessitate adjustments to the timing of certain decisions and reporting related to the establishment or dis-establishment of majors at Davis, no major difficulties are envisioned.

It seems that the only real benefit of the proposed change is that it could increase the application yield from prospective national and international first-year students, as the common application is available on August 1 and the availability of the UC application on the same date might make it more visible. While this is true, it strikes us that it may be too little too late, so to speak. Other universities are known to have significantly increased their application traffic from the population in question by merely adopting the common application. It is unclear why UC couldn’t profitably do the same thing. For example, national and international applicants (only) could be allowed to simply use the common application, at least as one option. UC could cut undoubtedly cut a deal with the providers of the service to allow us to collect, in XML format, whatever self-reported scores and demographic information are crucial to the evaluation procedure. This move would allow us to completely avoid the potential problem of inequal access to counseling assistance among California applicants. Naturally, California residents might be perceived as being disadvantaged. But, that perception is inevitable.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Patrick Faridi
Patrick Farrell, Chair
This seems like a good idea and does not seem to have an impact on faculty.
Graduate Council

April 23, 2013 1:20 PM

No response at this time.