Davis Division Academic Senate

Request for Consultation Responses

Senate Bylaw 182 Amendment - University Committee on International Education

May 6, 2015

An amendment of Senate Bylaw - 182: University Committee on International Education is submitted for system-wide review.
CERJ reviewed the proposed revisions to systemwide Senate Bylaw 182 regarding the University Committee on International Education. CERJ endorses the proposed revisions and agrees they are consistent with other systemwide and divisional bylaws.
Response continued on next page.
RFC: Senate Bylaw 182 Amendment – University Committee on International Education

The Graduate Council, based on a memo from its APD Committee, forwards its recommendations for the aforementioned RFC.

The Academic Planning and Development (APD) Committee met on April 7, 2015, and considered the proposed Senate Bylaw 182 amendment.

Graduate council through APD notes the dramatic increase in the number of international students at UC Davis and at other UC campuses, and the increase of UC students studying abroad. In light of these increases, and increasing attention toward global research and education, it makes sense to reevaluate the role of the University Committee on International Education (UCIE). The various proactive efforts of this committee, including authorship of a Vision Statement on International Engagement, are to be applauded.

Regarding Bylaw 182, APD would like to comment on the 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. The committee’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 taken abroad, but does not indicate the manner and conditions of supervision, nor the frequency of formal supervision activities. If a study abroad class curriculum, offered by 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?
Sincerely,

Kyaw Tha Paw U, Chair
Graduate Council

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C: Gina Anderson, Academic Senate Executive Director
International Education

April 8, 2015 4:47 PM

The Committee on International Education reviewed the Senate Bylaw 182 Amendment - University Committee on International Education. The Committee was in favor of the Amendment to the specified Senate Bylaw. However, one Committee Member inquired about funding that would help the UCIE initiate policy and implement the changes that will occur as a result of the Amendment. The Committee requests that such needs for funding be taken into account.