

Undergraduate Council (UGC)**Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2022
10:30am – 11:50pm****I. Chair's Report – Holley Moyes – 10:30am – 10:40am****A. November 1 Divisional Council Meeting**

- A strike is scheduled to take place on Monday, November 14, 2022.
- Chair Moyes is working on a second draft of the Honors proposal.
- EVC/Provost Camfield will send the Senate a memo requesting the formation of a committee (or working group) to reexamine the campus policy on the establishment of new Schools and Colleges. The committee will also be asked to consider the process on proposals that are currently under review, i.e. Gallo School.
- EVC/Provost Camfield is working on a proposal for the establishment of a Center for Research, Equity, Anti-Racism, and Transformative Engagement (CREATE).
- SNS Dean Dumont and Dr. Vener provided an update on the Medical Education Program, reporting as of October 28, 541 applications were started, 41 were completed, and 12 applicants will be accepted.

B. November 3 Regular Check-in Meeting with GC Chair Scheibner, VPDUE Frey, and VPDGE Hratchian

- Discussions were held regarding policy development for 4+1 blended degree programs. GC is currently drafting a policy, and UGC will be invited to review it in the near future.
- Discussions were held about possible communications regarding the strike, which is scheduled to take place on Monday, November 14, 2022. VPDUE Frey confirmed that students' grades in CatCourses cannot be deleted.

C. November 7 UCEP Meeting

- Three systemwide committees are currently addressing transfer issues. The proposed Senate Regulation 479 (Cal-GETC) was discussed, which is beneficial for transfer students. If UC Merced adopts SR 479, revisions will need to be made to the General Education (GE) Program.

II. Consent Calendar – 10:40am – 10:45am**A. The Agenda**

B. [October 25 meeting minutes](#)**Action:**

- The agenda was approved as presented.
- The October 25 meeting minutes were approved as presented.
- UGC Analyst will update the Senate website accordingly (completed 11/8).

III. October 27 UCOPE Meeting Update – Francois Blanchette – 10:45am – 10:50am

Member Blanchette reported on discussions regarding the proposed Senate Regulation 479 (Cal-GETC), as well as standardized testing and placement exams.

UCOPE committee members were generally in favor of the proposed SR 479 (Cal-GETC) and recognized that some revisions would be required at the campus level. There are, however, concerns that students may focus more on General Education (GE) requirements rather than their major requirements.

Because the SAT is no longer used for admissions, UCOPE is seeking alternative methods to assist undergraduate students. Members also discussed the Entry Level Writing Requirement (ELWR) and what is going to replace the UC Analytical Writing Placement Exam. Discussions revealed that this is being determined at each individual campus, and UCOPE plans to monitor each campus' approach. Students are required to pay a fee for the placement exam, and discussions were held about making sure these fees are indeed used to administer the placement exams.

IV. Approval of Courses – Ryan Baxter, Felicia Lopez, Alexander Petersen – 10:50am – 11:05am

Courses are available at the links below.

Action:

- The following courses were approved, and Curriculog will be updated accordingly (completed 11/8):
 1. [AE - 172 - Flight Dynamics and Control](#)
 2. [MSE - 030 - Materials and Human Civilization](#)

Action:

- The following courses were rejected, and Curriculog will be updated accordingly:
 1. [CE - 120 - Strength and Sustainability of Materials](#) – requested clarification on the difference from ENGR 151.
 2. [ENVE - 118 - Climate Change: Science and Solutions](#) – requested clarification on class restrictions and prerequisites.

3. [MIST - 118 - Climate Change: Science and Solutions](#) – requested clarification on class restrictions and prerequisites.
4. [PH - 090 - Topics in Public Health](#) – requested clarification on prerequisites.

Action:

- Further discussion of the following course will take place at the November 29 UGC meeting:

1. [PH - 190 - Advanced Topics in Public Health](#)

V. [First-year Flex Proposal](#) – Chair Moyes – 11:05am – 11:15am

In AY 21-22, VPDUE Frey introduced to UGC a proposal for policies supporting flexibility for major exploration and recovery from early academic struggle. UGC discussed this topic last year and their recommendations are highlighted in the proposal linked above.

During Summer 2022, Chair Moyes collaborated with the School Advising Directors, Curriculum Managers, and the Registrar to further discuss this proposal and to propose revisions to the Senate Regulations and the University Catalog.

On October 25, UGC briefly discussed the following three documents, and today, Chair Moyes will provide an update to the language for Change of Major.

Requested Action: Members to vote in executive session on the proposed revisions to the Senate Regulations and University Catalog.

Proposed revisions to Senate Regulation Part 1-Section 1-E – Passed/Not Passed is available [here](#).

Proposed revisions to Senate Regulation Part 1-Section 2-B – Dropping a Course is available [here](#).

Proposed revisions to the University Catalog for Change of Major is available [here](#).

Chair Moyes explained the proposed revisions to each of the three documents. VPDUE Frey clarified that the only revision being proposed to SR I.1.E. is the timeline for when students can declare Passed/Not Passed; the implications for how classes count toward the students' grade is not being changed.

A member pointed out that the proposed language for Change of Major does not include admissions restrictions for majors. VPDUE Frey clarified that the intent was not to include admissions criteria in policy because it would have to be constantly revised. Instead, each School will provide the advisors with the criteria to use to approve requests for change of major.

Action:

- Voting members voted in executive session to endorse the proposed revisions to

SR I.1.E, SR I.2.B. and the University Catalog – Change of Major (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, 2 members not present at time of vote).

- UGC Analyst will invite the School Executive Committees, the SSHA Curriculum Committee, and the General Education Executive Committee to comment on the proposed revisions.

VI. Update on Summer Online – Ryan Baxter, Heather Bortfeld, Alejandro Gutierrez, and Holley Moyes – 11:15am – 11:25am

On October 27, 2022, members Bortfeld and Baxter, Chair Moyes, Director of Summer Session Johnson, Registrar Webb, and VPDUE Frey met to discuss the approval of courses with online modality for Summer 2024. Today, participants will provide a summary of the discussion.

Requested Action: Members to engage in discussion and determine next steps.

Action:

- This item was tabled for the November 29 UGC meeting.

VII. [Proposal for a B.S. in Biochemical and Biomolecular Engineering](#) – Professor Eva de Alba - 11:25am – 11:35am

The proposal was distributed to the Chairs of Senate Committees, the SNS Executive Committee, and the SSHA Executive Committee. Lead reviewers' assessment and all associated comments will be discussed at the November 29 UGC meeting. Today, Professor de Alba will provide additional information on the proposal.

Requested Action: Professor de Alba to address any questions from the membership.

Professor de Alba shared a PowerPoint presentation, available [here](#).

The main topics from the presentation are noted below:

- The program is designed to focus on the connection between Chemical Engineering and Biology with technologies involving biomolecules and living cells for a variety of applications.
- Slide 9 shows the projection in enrollment growth over the next several years while considering the goal of reaching 13,500 undergraduate students by 2030.
- Slide 10 includes the several career paths that can be considered with a degree in Biochemical or Biomolecular Engineering.
- Slide 14 highlights several new courses that would be offered for this new major, with some courses not yet available. The effective term of the program is Fall 2024, and there are hopes to offer these new courses at that time.

A member inquired about the difference between offering a new degree as opposed to offering an emphasis track. Slides 11 – 13 explain that the BCME program cannot and should not be a track within the current Bioengineering program, and the reasoning is due

to ABET accreditation; ABET accreditation criteria for Bioengineering and Biochemical programs are different. Another member expressed interest in future conversations regarding Capstone projects to ensure that students' needs are met.

Chair Moyes recommended explicitly listing the upper division GE requirements in the proposal and suggested sending the proposal to the General Education Executive Committee for comments.

VIII. [Proposal for a B.S. in Chemical Engineering](#) – Professor Kara McCloskey - 11:35am – 11:45am

The proposal was distributed to the Chairs of Senate Committees, the SNS Executive Committee, and the SSHA Executive Committee. Lead reviewers' assessment and all associated comments will be discussed at the November 29 UGC meeting. Today, Professor McCloskey will provide additional information on the proposal.

Requested Action: Professor McCloskey to address any questions from the membership.

Professor McCloskey shared a PowerPoint presentation, available [here](#).

The main topics from the presentation are noted below:

- Several lower division requirements include math, physics, and chemistry courses.
- Most upper division requirements include unique Chemical Engineering courses.
- Students can take three technical electives, and they are encouraged to align them.
- Lab space has been identified for ChE 150: Unit Operations, and Professor McCloskey has been meeting regularly with building planners to ensure the space will accommodate the planned experiments.
- The proposers have also been in communications with Gallo, who have donated equipment and funding for the program.
- The teaching plan and curriculum have been coordinated to allow students majoring Chemical Engineering to take the Nanotechnology Emphasis and Material Sciences and Engineering minor, as well as a dual major.

Member Leppert reported that the Materials Sciences required courses will be streamlined, and the electives will be suitable for both Chemical Engineering majors and Materials Sciences majors. She also explained the teaching capacity for the program, noting the plans similar to UC Riverside to offer several different majors with one or two faculty in each discipline.

A member inquired about the Summer semester between years three and four of the program. Professor McCloskey clarified that many Chemical Engineering programs must offer lab courses in the Summer term because the experiments can take all day and would overlap with students' other courses if taken during the regular term.

Another member expressed their interest in future conversations regarding Capstone projects and the importance of providing adequate resources (i.e. additional staff, TAs, etc.) to best serve the

needs of the students.

IX. New Business? – 11:45am – 11:50am

No new business was discussed.

X. Executive Session – Voting Members Only – 11:50am – 12:00pm

No minutes were recorded during executive session. The action items were shared with voting members.

XI. Informational Items:

- A. [UCEP White Paper on Online Undergraduate Degree Programs](#)
- B. [Recommendations for Protecting Academic Integrity and Intellectual Property](#)