

ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE (AFAC)
ANNUAL REPORT
AY 2021-2022

To the Merced Division of the Academic Senate:

In AY 2021-2022, AFAC held a total of 8 regularly scheduled meetings via zoom and conducted some business via email with respect to its duties as outlined in UC Merced's [Senate Bylaw II.IV.2](#).

Areas of focus this year are described below.

Campus Review Items

AFAC reviewed and commented on:

- New Academic Activity Policy
 - On September 17, 2021, AFAC discussed member Charlie Eaton's proposal for a new Academic Activity Policy, which would assist in relieving students' institutional debts and sunset some debt collection practices that can obstruct degree attainment. AFAC Chair Ghassemi and member Eaton attended the January 27, 2022 meeting to introduce the proposal to DivCo members. The proposal was circulated for Senate review on February 10, 2022. AFAC reviewed the Senate's recommendations at their April 5, 2022 meeting and transmitted a memo to the Senate Chair on April 25, 2022. AFAC member Eaton attended the May 5, 2022 DivCo meeting to discuss the Senate's recommendations. Member Eaton met with Vice Chancellor Nies and Vice Chancellor Schneir regarding the recommendations on May 19, 2022 and again with Vice Chancellor Schnier on July 13, 2022 with a decision on the Senate and AFAC recommendations pending as of this report.
- Proposal for a B.S. in Electrical Engineering (2/18)
- Proposed revisions to English Major and Minor (3/10)

Systemwide Review Items

AFAC reviewed and commented on:

- Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 424 – A-G Ethnic Studies
 - AFAC reviewed and offered comments on the proposed revisions to SR 424 in December 2021. AFAC was asked to review the proposal again in May 2022 in light of feedback received from the Divisions. AFAC transmitted a joint memo with the UC Merced History & Critical Race and Ethnic Studies (HCRES) faculty to BOARS on June 2, 2022, stating their opposition to revisiting the proposal.
- Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 478 (IGETC) (10/1)

Other Correspondence

AFAC took the following actions on the following items:

- Reviewed and approved 13 Admission by Exception Application Reports.
- Offered comments on the School of Engineering's request for Unit 18 lecturers and adjunct faculty remote instruction (10/14).
- Offered comments on a proposal from SSHA Associate Dean, Anne Zanzucchi, and Director of

Degree Completion Program, Michael Pierick, for a Degree Completion Program at UC Merced (2/10).

- Transmitted a memo to DivCo re: The Commendation of Financial Aid Staff (2/17).
- Offered comments on the SJV + Admissions Criteria proposal (2/24).
- Offered comments on a request from the Admissions Office regarding the publishing of major selection criteria in the University Catalog (3/17).
- Transmitted a memo to University Extension re: Request to Add Teacher Preparation Program to UG Admissions Materials (5/16).

Respectfully submitted,

AFAC members:

Abbas Ghassemi (SoE), Chair, BOARS Representative

Erik Menke (SNS), Vice-Chair

Charlie Eaton (SSHA)

Mariaelena Gonzalez (SSHA)

Sachin Goyal (SoE)

Ex officio, non-voting members:

Dustin Noji, Director, Admissions and Outreach

Jill Orcutt, Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management

Ron Radney, Director, Financial Aid and Scholarships

Staff:

Melanie Snyder, Senate Senior Analyst