Justification for Revisions to Bylaw 182: University Committee on International Education

The University Committee on International Education (UCIE), was initially established in 1965 to provide faculty Academic Senate governance over the university-wide study abroad program. At that time and for many years thereafter, the University’s principal systemwide activities in international education took the form of the education abroad program, which is now called the University of California Education Abroad Program (UCEAP). Given this, UCIE’s bylaws have only covered faculty governance of student exchange programs associated with UCEAP. Over time however, and especially in the last decade, the University has expanded both its formal and informal international activities. While UCEAP’s activities in student exchanges remain significant part of UC’s international portfolio of international activities, it is no longer the principal expression of this activity, which now includes the enrollment of significant numbers of international students, formal and informal international research collaborations, international service learning by undergraduates, an increasing number of MOUs and other international agreements between UC campuses and institutional partners, and even Presidential Initiatives. The increase in these activities necessitates an expansion in UCIE’s purview from a committee that simply oversees student exchanges through UCEAP to one that has an advisory role in all of the University’s systemwide international activities. With that in mind, the following justification will briefly describe UC expansion in international activities, the role of shared governance in such activities, and an explanation of the amendments being proposed.

Over the last decade, UC’s international presence and engagement has expanded significantly. One example of this phenomeon is the growth in the enrollment of international students, which have risen from 9,576 in fall 2002 to 19,404 in fall 2012. Although the University does not keep records on the international research collaborations by its faculty, data from the National Science Foundation (NSF) show that such collaborations on a national basis are increasing significantly. From 1997 to 2012, the number of science and engineering (S&E) articles in peer-reviewed journals by co-authors from different countries increased from 14% to 25%. The NSF now reports that 35% of U.S. S&E co-authored articles are international in scope. In addition, more and more students are now taking part in independent research activities abroad (usually with faculty), which have increased by almost 47% between 2010-11 and 2011-12. At UC, a number of internationally-themed Presidential initiatives have recently been launched as well. These include the UC Mexico Initiative and the Global Food Initiative. These initiatives leverage the international activities already taking place on the campuses, such as UCSF’s Global Health Sciences Group and UC Mexus to name only a few.

It is clear that a significant number of universities are internationalizing themselves, which necessitates the creation and maintenance of policy dedicated to international activities. For instance, a recent UC survey found that Harvard, MIT, Stanford, Yale, the University of Illinois, the University of Michigan, the University of New York at SUNY-Buffalo, and the University of Virginia have all instituted policies on international activities. Indeed, many of these universities have set up administrative committees to address such policy. Given that most international activity is driven by faculty interests and research, it is essential that the Academic Senate not only be consulted, but play an instrumental role in forming such policy. Towards that end, Academic Council endorsed and sent the UCIE-drafted Vision Statement on International Engagement to President Napolitano last summer. UCIE also has a representative on the Academic Planning Council’s International Activities Working Group, which is drafting a Presidential Policy on International Activities.

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1 In its earliest form in the 1960s, UCIE was constituted as the “Committee on Education Abroad Program” under Bylaw 122. Originally the Senate shared responsibility with a separate administrative committee, until it gained complete control over courses taken abroad in 1971. UCIE took its current form in May 2003 under Bylaw 185. UCEAP should not be confused with the acronym for the original University Committee on Education Abroad Program or “UCEAP”.
2 See Statistical Summaries and Data on UC Students, Faculty, and Staff, UC Institutional Research and Academic Planning, http://legacy-its.ucop.edu/uwmnews/stat/.
5 Harvard has set up one such policy committee, the University Committee on International Projects and Sites, which is mainly populated by a mix of faculty and administrators. See http://provost.harvard.edu/university-committee-international-projects-and-sites.
Activities. Therefore, the proposed amendments to these bylaws formalize faculty governance in this area, as well as laying out reporting relationships between both Senate agencies and Administrative entities. First, the following bylaw amendments expand the UCIE’s purview from simply student exchange associated with UCEAP to international research collaborations, the welfare of international students and scholars, international engagement initiatives, UC educational centers abroad, and any experiential and service learning arrangements. Second, the new bylaws would allow UCIE to initiate policy proposals (the existing bylaws only allow UCIE to consider matters that are referred to it by the President of the University, the Academic Council, the Assembly, or a Divisional or any Senate Committee). Similarly, UCIE would now formally be designated as the liaising Senate agency between UCOP international policy working groups and Academic Senate leadership. Finally, the new bylaws formalize the consulting, reporting, and feedback mechanisms between UCIE and Administrative and Senate agencies.

In proposing changes to its bylaws, UCIE is also trying to make its bylaws conform to those bylaws already in place at a number of Senate Divisional Committees on International Education (or their equivalents), as indicated below:

- UCI’s Subcommittee on International Education has the authority to opine on formal educational activities of UCI students abroad, faculty exchanges between UCI and foreign universities, and other academic issues involving international education.
- UCLA’s Committee on International Education both provides consultation to the International Education Office (IEO) and the Vice Provost, International Institute and serves as liaison between the IEO and Academic Senate leadership, helping to ensure that policies and procedures are appropriately vetted by the Senate.
- UCR’s Committee on International Education advises the Division on various aspects of international education, including the well-being of foreign students and faculty at UCR, the participation of UCR in international exchange agreements, and the participation of UCR faculty and students in international research and educational programs other than the EAP.
- UCSD’s Executive Committee on the Committee on International Education formulates policies and programs that will serve to better integrate international education into the campus academic programs.
- UCSB’s Committee on International Education formulates a bi-annual survey of international students that helps guide UCSB’s policy concerning this growing portion of the student body. The committee consults with the Office of International Students and Scholars as well as the EAP Campus Office, and advises the Associate Vice Chancellor on International Affairs.
182. International Education (Formerly 165 Education Abroad Program) (Am 28 May 2003)

A. Membership shall be determined in accordance with Bylaw 128, except that the Chair shall normally serve a two-year term. One undergraduate student and one graduate student shall sit with the Committee. [See Bylaw 128.E.] The Vice Chair shall be chosen in accordance with Bylaw 128.D.2. and 3. On a campus that has no equivalent committee, a member shall be an at-large Senate member. (Am 28 May 2003)

B. Duties. Consistent with Bylaw 40, the Committee shall: (Am 28 May 2003)
   1. Consider and report on matters of international education and research referred to the Committee by the President of the University, the Academic Council, the Assembly, a Divisional or any Senate Committee (Am 28 May 2003).
   2. Report to the Academic Council and other agencies of the Senate and confer with and advise the President and agencies of the University Administration on matters concerning international engagement, including:
      i. International research in which UC students and/or faculty participate.
      ii. Participation of UC faculty and/or students in international exchange agreements.
      iii. The status and welfare of international students and scholars on the UC campuses.
      iv. Educational Centers run by UC campuses abroad (other than UCEAP).
   3. Initiate policy recommendations regarding international engagement programs and the status and welfare of international students and scholars at UC, including policies that will better serve to integrate international education and research into UC academic programs.
   4. Serve as liaison between UCOP international policy working groups and Academic Senate leadership, helping to ensure that proposed policies and procedures are appropriately vetted by the Academic Senate.
   5. Evaluate and advise on UC’s international service learning or experiential learning programs.
   6. Provide continuing review of the Education Abroad Program and its policies. (EC 28 May 2003) Consult with the University Office of Education Abroad Program on future program development, including modification of the programs of existing Study Centers, establishment of new Study Centers, and disestablishment of EAP Programs. (Am 28 May 2003)
      i. Represent the Senate in the selection of Study Center Directors. (Am 28 May 2003)
      ii. Maintain liaison with the Council of Campus Directors. (Am 28 May 2003)
      iii. Advise the University Office of Education Abroad Program Director on all matters of international education. (Am 28 May 2003)
      iv. Have the responsibility for the final academic review of new Study Centers and Programs after the first three years, and for regular reviews of all centers and programs every ten years or as conditions may require. (En 4 May 89; Am 4 Jun 91; Am 28 May 2003)
      v. Authorize and supervise all courses and curricula in the Education Abroad Program. (Am 2 Dec 71; Am 4 May 89; Am 28 May 2003)
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3. Initiate policy recommendations regarding international engagement programs and the status and welfare of international students and scholars at UC, including policies that will better serve to integrate international education and research into UC academic programs.
4. Serve as liaison between UCOP international policy working groups and Academic Senate leadership, helping to ensure that proposed policies and procedures are appropriately vetted by the Academic Senate.
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