



ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
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June 15, 2009

Mary Croughan
Chair of the Academic Council

In Re: Proposed Seminar Network

Dear Mary,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and opine upon the Proposed UC Seminar Network. Upon receipt of the proposal, I requested the Council on Research, Council on Planning and Budget, Undergraduate Council, and Graduate Council to review and opine. The Executive Board, which speaks for the Division on such matters, also reviewed and opined. I am attaching the various responses for your information.

UCLA endorses the proposal contingent upon the following revisions:

1. Rather than structure the program so that faculty must opt out if they are uninterested in participation, it should be structured so that faculty opt in if they wish to participate.
2. The proposal should be revised to be more inclusive of the breadth of academic interests on campus (it currently reads as a proposal more attuned to scientific lectures, but not humanities, social sciences, the arts, professionals schools, and the like).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael S. Goldstein".

Michael S. Goldstein
UCLA Academic Senate Chair

Cc: Martha Kendall Winnacker, Executive Director and Chief of Staff, Academic Senate
Jaime R. Balboa, Chief Administrative Officer, UCLA Academic Senate

DATE: May 22, 2009
TO: Michael Goldstein, Chair, Academic Senate
FROM: Council on Research Meeting May 8, 2009
RE: Senate Item for Review: UC Seminar Network

UCLA's Council on Research engaged in discussion during review of the University Committee on Research Policy's requested endorsement of its concept paper describing a proposed initiative to establish a UC Seminar Network. The network would broadcast live via web the many seminars that occur on UC campuses each week as well as store and archive them for future viewing.

Members of the Council on Research attending the May 8, 2009 meeting voted unanimously in favor of endorsing the proposed initiative.

Sincerely,

Hans Schollhammer
Professor and Chair, UCLA COR

June 3, 2009

Professor Michael Goldstein
Chair, Academic Senate

RE: Response to Senate Item for Review: Proposed UC Seminar Network

The Council on Planning and Budget appreciated the opportunity to review the UC Seminar Network Proposal. The Council reviewed the item at its meeting on June 1, 2009 and had no comment on the matter and neither endorsed nor opposed the proposal.

Best regards,



Joseph Bristow
Chair, Council on Planning and Budget

cc: Jaime Balboa, Chief Administrative Officer, Academic Senate
Elizabeth Bjork, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate
Robin Garrell, Vice Chair, Academic Senate
Linda Mohr, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Academic Senate

June 1, 2009

To: Michael Goldstein, Chair
Academic Senate

From: Dorothy Wiley, Chair
Undergraduate Council



Re: UCORP Concept Paper "UC Seminar Network"

I am writing to report that at its May 29, 2009 meeting, the Undergraduate Council (UgC) thoughtfully discussed the University Committee on Research Policy [UCORP] concept paper for a UC Seminar Network, which would broadcast live via web the many seminars that occur on UC campuses each week as well as store and archive them for future viewing. The Council did not endorse the proposal submitted by UCORP and voted with 8 opposed, 2 in favor of the concept with reservations, and 2 abstentions. The student vote was 0 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Council members suggested that the program be re-thought and that UCORP reassess the premise on which the proposal is based. On its face, the concept is engaging, but the concepts and components as stated in the document's Overview, are naïve. It states,

*The keys to the successful development and implementation of this concept are simplicity and ease of set up at the seminar venue, and **especially the lack of any need for special technical expertise**. The main operational concepts are buy-in by the hosting department **and prioritizing transmission of content over concerns about high definition images of the speaker, ideal lighting, and elaborate speaker introductions**. [Bold added for emphasis.]*

The UgC members agreed that there are successful, high production models being used on this campus that might be explored by UCORP. The UgC invites the Committee to reevaluate its program and bring an enhanced model back to the Council for consideration.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me (x 5-0803; dwiley@ucla.edu) or Judith Lacertosa, UgC Principal Policy Analyst (x51194; jlacertosa@senate.ucla.edu).

cc: Jaime Balboa, CAO, Academic Senate
Judith Lacertosa, Principal Policy Analyst, Undergraduate Council
Dorothy Ayer, Assistant to Senate Leadership & CAO

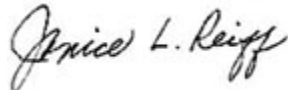
To: Michael Goldstein, Chair, Academic Senate
From: Jan Reiff, Chair, Graduate Council
Date: June 1, 2009
RE: UC Seminar Network

As requested, the Graduate Council reviewed the University Committee on Research Policy's (UCORP) concept paper, "UC Seminar Network." Overall, the Council enthusiastically endorsed making such a resource available in the UC System. Several members commented that they have used seminars from the *University Seminar Network* and noted those seminars' invaluable contributions in their courses and to their research. Members also acknowledged that online instructional resources will only improve over time, so offering such a service through the University of California is both timely and relevant.

Members also raised some concerns about utilizing such a resource, indicating that issues of intellectual property and copyright infringements must be protected. Many acknowledged that visiting instructors and even some students may be inhibited if a course they are participating in is recorded, so primary instructors must be cautioned to collect permissions from all individuals. Members also remarked that, if such a service is to be made available, it would be critical to record not only the lecture but the discussion following the lecture to capture the essence of the respective seminar. There was also general agreement that production quality will be important for making this project successful. All agreed that poorly recorded seminars will discourage their use and limit their value.

Thank you for the opportunity to opine on this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or the Graduate Council's analyst, Kyle Cunningham, at extension 51162.

Sincerely,



Janice L. Reiff
Chair, Graduate Council

cc: Dorothy Ayer, Executive Assistant, Academic Senate
Jaime Balboa, CAO, Academic Senate
Kyle Cunningham, Graduate Council Analyst, Academic Senate