Subcommittee on Courses & Continuing, Part-Time, & Summer Session Education (SCOC)
LAUC-I Academic Senate Representative
2024-2025 Report

Submitted to General Membership: July 21, 2025

Submitted by: Sara Heimann (term end 2025)

Council/Committee Name (acronym): Subcommittee on Courses & Continuing, Part-Time & Summer Session Education (SCOC)

Council/Committee Charge:

1. Establish appropriate procedures for the approval of courses.

2. Take final action on the approval, disapproval, modification, withdrawal, conduct, credit valuation and classification of courses and proposals to modify degrees. Subcommittee disapproval of a course may be appealed to the Divisional Senate Assembly by the academic unit proposing the course. Decisions should be made consistent with established educational policy. Full consideration should be given to campus diversity issues, to the views of appropriate schools, departments, and other academic units in matters relating to their courses of instruction. Requests for course approval should be promptly acted upon.

Link to Council/Committee Website:
https://senate.uci.edu/committees/subcommittees/courses-continuing-part-time-summer-session-education-subcommittee-on-scoc/

Frequency of Meetings: Monthly during academic year via Zoom.

Major Activities:

The Committee reviews, discusses, and votes on Teaching Associate (TA) exception requests, program modifications, courses requesting major changes, and courses requesting minor changes. I attended the monthly meetings as a non-voting member.

Program modifications included the updating of program requirements, catalogue information, required courses, electives, and unit requirements; the addition of course options to satisfy field study requirements; and the discontinuation of a minor.

Major changes to courses included the proposal of a new course or format for an existing course, the addition or reduction of units, the revision of class type, updating of course objectives, and course reactivation.

Minor changes to courses are approved in bulk and included the updating of course title, course number, course description, prerequisites, corequisites, GE designation, grading option, and registration restrictions; the addition of catalogue instructions, prerequisites, a discussion hour, and course overlap; the removal of a discussion hour and cross-listing; the sunsetting of a course; and the deletion of a course.

As with the previous year, AI continued to be a topic of discussion, particularly as it relates to instructors including an AI policy on syllabi for new course proposals. An AI statement, developed by SCOC, is still being considered. There were also discussions around students' use of AI as an academic integrity violation vs. a learning issue.

In December 2024, it was noted that the justification for online course proposals is generally insufficient. There was discussion about possibly creating a separate online course approval process for summer quarter, so that courses can be approved to be taught online *only* in the summer, and not during the academic year. A reason given for this is that students are away from home, making an online format necessary in order for students to stay on track for graduation.

Following each monthly meeting, I send emails to individual subject librarians notifying them of new course proposals in their area(s) that were approved by the Committee.

Issues of Concern to the Libraries:

N/A

Recommendations for New Reps/New Year:

This concludes my 3-year term as the LAUC-I SCOC Representative. LAUC-I will need to appoint a new representative.