Subcommittee on Courses & Continuing, Part-Time, & Summer Session Education (SCOC)
LAUC-I Academic Senate Representative
2023-2024 Report

Submitted to General Membership: September 10, 2024

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.

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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.

The topic of course units, which was a trend observed last year, continued during this year's meetings. In November, there was a discussion of proposing a new CIM field for "unit justification." As a non-voting member, I do not have access to the CIM, so it's unclear if this new field was implemented.

Naturally, generative AI was also a trend this year. In March, there was a discussion about adding a statement to syllabi about how instructors will prevent the use of generative AI to cheat, e.g., "What measure will you take to address academic dishonesty and promote academic integrity in the course?".

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:

I will continue as the LAUC-I SCOC Representative for one more year (until 2025).