

Council on Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience (CTLSE)
LAUC-I Academic Senate Representative
2021-2022 Report

Submitted to General Membership: August 31, 2022

Submitted by: Krystal Tribbett (term end 2024)

Council/Committee Name (acronym): Council on Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience (CTLSE)

Council/Committee Charge:

The Council shall promote teaching, its quality, evaluation and promotion, diversity, equal opportunity, and the quality of the student experience, and shall advise the Chancellor and the Irvine Division on issues in the areas of teaching, student life and welfare, and intramural and intercollegiate athletics.

Link to Council/Committee Website:

<https://senate.uci.edu/committees/councils/council-on-teaching-learning-student-experience-ctlse/>

Frequency of Meetings: Monthly, 2-hour meetings

Major Activities:

1. **Teaching**

1. Consider policies and issues concerning the quality of teaching on campus, e.g., the improvement and evaluation of teaching and the role of teaching in academic advancement.
2. Advise administrators, faculty, and other Senate committees on matters affecting the quality of teaching on campus and matters affecting teaching contributions that promote diversity and equal opportunity.
3. Make recommendations to the above and other appropriate bodies concerning such issues as the improvement of teaching, the evaluation of teaching, and the assessment of teaching in the academic personnel process.
4. Formulate general policies concerning instructional support activities on campus and advise the administration regarding campus budgetary needs for instructional support.

5. Advise the Dean of Graduate Division, VPTL and Dean of Undergraduate Education, and the Center for Engaged Instruction regarding programs and services that will foster effective teaching, to stimulate and aid all departments in fostering effective teaching.
6. Select faculty and other instructors for Celebration of Teaching Awards and other awards as appropriate. Provide direction to the Center for Engaged Instruction in matters regarding CTLSE business, and when required, in any matters concerning the Council's instructional support.

2. Student Affairs

1. Consider and review formally as needed, those programs of the Office of Student Affairs, the Graduate Division, and the Division of Undergraduate Education that affect the University experience of UCI students. Such programs include but are not limited to: the Learning and Academic Resource Center, Student Transition Services, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, Career Center, Student Health Service, Counseling Center, Disability Services, Cross Cultural Center, and the UCI Bookstore.
2. Consider and review formal matters affecting the promotion of student diversity and equal opportunity as defined by the University of California Diversity Statement (adopted by the Assembly of the Academic Senate on May 10, 2006). Such a review includes but is not limited to, an examination of enrollment, retention, and student satisfaction/campus engagement data.
3. Advise the Chancellor on behalf of the Academic Senate regarding the allocation of student registration fees and recommendations for the enhancement of student diversity and equal opportunity.
4. Appoint ad hoc Grievance Panels to hear student grievances which pertain to matters under the authority of the Academic Senate and, where such grievances are found to be justified, the Panel shall determine appropriate means of redress. Hearings by the Grievance Panel and related procedures are to be conducted in accordance with Appendix II. Grievance Panels shall consist of three voting members of the Academic Senate, at least one of whom is a member of the CTLSE; this member shall be chair of the Panel.

3. Intramural and Intercollegiate Athletics

Review and report to the Chancellor and the Irvine Division on issues of significance regarding the UCI intramural and intercollegiate athletics program.

Issues of Concern to the Libraries:

Major topics of discussed this year included:

- Fall of 2021 instruction issues related mostly virtual and in-person, as well as attendance, student needs, and instructor capacity.
- Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH): The proposed revisions are to: (i) comply with a new state law, Senate Bill (SB) 493, and (ii) better account for Prohibited Conduct in the clinical setting.

- Student Affairs units that experienced limited operations for Fall Quarter 2021 as well as general updates within Student Affairs
- Negative Comments in Course Evaluations and AP Reviews. Instructors expressed concern regarding negative comments on course evaluations and how those are reviewed by the Council on Academic Personnel and Academic Personnel.
- Revisions to Appendix II: Grade Appeals. Last year 2020/21, CTLSE proposed revisions to Appendix II of the Manual of the Irvine Division of the Academic Senate. However, a grade appeal filed under the new procedures raised additional concerns about the process. Senate Chair Ho asked the Council to review Appendix II once again and propose further revisions. It is requested that members specifically consider revising or eliminating language around the “burden of proof” in the policy, and to reconsider whether a hearing (a meeting of the grievant, respondent, and the hearing panel) is the appropriate mechanism for resolving these cases. An alternative model, employed at other UC campuses, allows the hearing panel to review the evidence and interview both parties separately, if needed, eliminating a potentially adversarial face-to-face hearing.
- UCI WASC Accreditation. The Council was presented with information regarding the WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) accreditation that was already in the works and provide feedback on that process.
- Evaluation of Teaching and the Student Feedback Forms. CTLSE had a conversation about evaluation of teaching at UCI with a specific focus on the use and misuse of the current Student Feedback Forms (SFF’s) that were introduced prior to the pandemic. While the proximate issue was how to manage issues where students offer non-constructive or even abusive and derogatory comments to these forms, CTLSE also considered whether this is the tool that best serves the needs of the academic senate and the University in how we evaluate both individual teaching performance and efforts to improve teaching effectiveness on campus. A memo was drafted to address concerns and recommendations regarding evaluations of teaching.
- Review of Probation Procedures. In 2019, OVPTL, in partnership with a working group of academic advisors and associate deans for undergraduate education, began a comprehensive review of academic probation processes across campus. The review focused on those procedures related to Irvine Regulations A385 Normal Progress Requirement and 395 Probation and Disqualification (specifically focusing on probation, not disqualification). A primary goal of this effort was to move toward consistency in processes across campus while balancing any unique needs of the academic units. The OVPTL has asked the Senate to review its report and provide feedback on changes to practices and processes.
- English Proficiency Policy for Teaching Assistants. Two task forces were convened to develop a new English proficiency policy for appointment of students to Teaching Assistants and Teaching Associates (TAs) during the 2019-20 and 2020-21 academic years. The recommendations from the task forces and subsequent review and approval by the Senate resulted in the current policy for TAs. CTLSE was asked to revisit the policy in response to particular requests from Graduate Division.

- Proposal to Establish an Online B.A. in Business 3:40–4:00pm Administration for Transfer Students. The Paul Merage School of Business has submitted for Senate review a proposal to establish a fully online B.A. in Business Administration for transfer students.

Recommendations for New Reps/New Year:

Each meeting the LAUC-I representative is given an opportunity to give an overview of UCI Libraries' issues, activities, or events. The LAUC-I rep should be prepared to provide these.