



June 20, 2018

To: Cindy Larive
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

From: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DR", is placed over the text "Chair" and "Riverside Division".

Re: Report Review: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

Dear Cindy:


Please find the full complement of Senate Committee feedback on the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report attached to this memo. You will see that the committees offer a variety of responses, and are generally supportive of the Report and its recommendations. I should indicate that several committees offer fairly substantive feedback and raise important questions regarding the Report's potential implications, and i am confident that this feedback will facilitate ongoing discussions about course scheduling at UCR.

Yours,
dylan

UC RIVERSIDE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA | **Academic Senate**
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

May 18, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

From: John S. Levin, Chair 
Committee on Academic Freedom (CAF)


Re: Report Review: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The Committee on Academic Freedom considered “Report Review: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report,” distributed April 25, 2018. The views of committee members indicated that there were no obvious direct effects based upon the scheduling policy report. However, concerns about potential indirect effects were raised by committee members. One concern pertained to inequitable lecture times embedded in the 2 day and 3 day patterns (160 minutes vs. 150 minutes). This concern noted that faculty would have to make compromises on curriculum. A second concern related to scheduling changes made to meet administrative requirements. A third concern focused upon effects of the offering of courses that were at times inconvenient for students and faculty. These concerns do suggest that teaching approaches might be compromised. A fourth concern picks up on one of the report’s findings: “Departments feel they lack sufficient control over scheduling, and perceive the overall scheduling process to be unfair and insufficiently respectful of departmental preferences.” Where individual faculty must alter their curriculum in order to fit differing time patterns for the same course (perhaps taught a year apart), then this may impinge upon faculty autonomy (and perhaps academic freedom in what and how to teach).



May 8, 2018

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Tim Paine, Chair 
Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report


The Committee on Educational Policy reviewed the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup report at their May 4, 2018 meeting and recognizes the work and effort that the workgroup committed to draft the recommendations. The Committee was generally supportive of the recommendations in the report. The Committee recommends that the course scheduling issues discussed in the report be tracked to determine if the recommendations once implemented are benefiting the campus.



COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY & EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

May 31, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez
Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: Suveen Mathaudhu, Chair 
Committee on Diversity & Equal Opportunity


Re: Report Review: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The Committee on Diversity & Equal Opportunity considered the Report Review: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report and did not find any diversity related issues.



May 18, 2018

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Wee Liang Gan, Chair 
Committee on Courses

Re: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The Committee on Courses reviewed the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup report at their May 3, 2018 meeting and were generally supportive of the proposed recommendations.

The Committee was supportive of the recommendation to form a course scheduling committee to implement scheduling policy but recommends that the Provost consider including representatives from Senate committees such as the Committee on Educational Policy or Executive Committees of the colleges and schools.

The Committee noted concern with the proposed priority scheduling process as the report did not document if the workgroup reviewed the effect that the proposed scheduling process would have on each department. Since the proposed changes are motivated in part to address perceived inequities across departments, the Committee recommends the workgroup to share the detailed prototype schedule from its testing so that each department can review how its schedule will be affected by the proposed scheduling process.


The Committee noted concern that the proposal does not address potential conflicts with graduate seminars. The Committee recommends that departments be consulted during the scheduling process to address potential conflicts for teaching assistants.



COMMITTEE ON FACULTY WELFARE

May 23, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez
Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: Daniel Jeske, Chair 
Committee on Faculty Welfare

Re: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report


The Faculty Welfare Committee met on 5/22/2018 to discuss the memo from the course scheduling policy workgroup. The committee members recognize the enormous challenge of those involved in coordinating so many constraints on the scheduling process and expresses appreciation for their efforts. The committee welcomes the additional teaching patterns to the process. The committee suggests the campus consider the construction of relatively inexpensive temporary classroom structures as an alternative for alleviating scheduling conflicts and stress points.



PLANNING & BUDGET

May 1, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division


From: Christian Shelton, Chair 
Committee on Planning and Budget

RE: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB) reviewed the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report. CPB was supportive of the workgroup's active inquiry and planning for improving scheduling on campus. The course scheduling options explored are supported by CPB; they seem well considered, do not have a budgetary impact, and would increase UCR's capacity to accommodate student and faculty preferences.

May 21, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Richard Seto 
Committee on Physical Resources Planning

Re: [Campus Review] Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The Committee on Physical Resources Planning reviewed the [Campus Review] Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report at their May 7, 2018 committee meeting. The report by the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup was in response to the demand for classrooms during the prime time between 9AM and 3PM. The committee was generally supportive of the plan as proposed. It was pointed out that one of the important outcomes of a more organized scheduling process is the identification of errors before the quarter starts. To this end the availability of a proposed schedule, a reasonable time before the quarter begins would be important. The proposal to plan schedules for the entire year, instead of quarter by quarter would do much in this regard. There were two other minor issues of concern. The first was a desire on the part of the faculty that advance warning be given to instructors when canceling classes - though this may be a function of the timing of student registration. The second was a lack of staffing which leads to errors - in particular when one person is assigned to several departments. This problem is alluded to, as the report acknowledged that scheduling is an enormous effort, requiring the full attention of several staff for a month during times of peak workload.



May 21, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Amit Roy-Chowdhury, Chair
Committee on Research

RE: Campus Review: [Report Review] Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The Committee on Research reviewed the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup report and has no comments.



May 24, 2018

TO: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Thomas Stahovich, Chair
Executive Committee, Bourns College of Engineering

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas F. Stahovich".

RE: Response to Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

On May 14, 2018 the BCOE executive committee met and discussed the Proposed Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report. The committee supports the recommendations of the workgroup.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92521-0132

May 23, 2018

TO: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Academic Senate

FROM: Kate Sweeny, Chair
CHASS Executive Committee

RE: Response to Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The CHASS Executive Committee discussed the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report at the regular meeting on May 23, 2018. The committee appreciates the efforts of the workgroup and is supportive of their recommendations. The committee is especially enthusiastic about the formation of a Course Scheduling Committee, which can serve as a "response team" in case new challenges arise or existing challenges persist with the introduction of the course scheduling system.

Kate Sweeny, Chair

CHASS Executive Committee



May 23, 2018

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Ward Beyermann, Chair, Executive Committee
College of Natural and Agricultural Science

Re: Campus Review: Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup Report

The CNAS Executive Committee discussed the Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup report at its May 22, 2018 meeting. Overall, the committee was impressed with the attention given to this issue, and we endorse the recommendations in the report. The only concern brought up during the discussion pertains to scheduling final exams for courses that are not assigned a regular classroom, such as online courses. In some cases, these courses may still have an in-person final exam, but even for those that opt for an online proctored exam, these courses still need a reserved time slot that does not conflict with other exams. The scheduling policy should include a mechanism for dealing with this possibility.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ward Beyermann".

Ward Beyermann, Chair
CNAS Executive Committee

June 6, 2018

TO: Senate Division Chair Dylan Rodriguez

FROM: Maurizio Pellecchia, Chair Executive Committee, School of Medicine

RE: comments on "Course Scheduling Policy Workgroup"

The School of Medicine Executive Committee evaluated the document at the May 2018 FEC meeting.

The FEC members discussed some of the results of the surveys and took note of some of the general students' complaints. However, the FEC members noted that medical students have different course and class schedules than the general student population at UCR. In addition, SOM students use almost exclusively classrooms located in the SOM education building, hence are not subjected to several issues mentioned in the document. Therefore, the SOM FEC concluded that it would consider/comment on any new general policies only to the unlikely extent that these would affect/include SOM medical students.

Kind regards,

Maurizio Pellecchia



Maurizio Pellecchia, Ph.D.

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