To:          Shane White, Chair
            Academic Senate

From:        David Gere, Chair
            Committee on Continuing and Community Education

Date:        January 26, 2021


At its meeting on January 21, 2021, the Committee on Continuing and Community Education reviewed and discussed the Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI) Review and offered the following for consideration:

Committee members expressed concerns regarding the administration and funding of UC Online. Rather than a centralized approach, members felt that funding and administration of online courses are best governed at the campus level to maintain quality control on the content. Members recommend that funding be directed to individual campuses for investment in IT support and infrastructure to build out hybrid and online courses and to support faculty with course development.

Student members, in particular, felt that more students at UCLA would make use of UC Online if the campus developed a mechanism for impacted courses to be offered in an online format.

Members were surprised by the low completion rate and recommended that UC Online work harder to support student achievement and degree completion.

Members were generally supportive of Recommendation 1: Eliminate the Non-Matriculated Student enrollment efforts previously branded as UC Online as there does not seem to be demand and because the cost of the program is prohibitive. One member noted, however, that “non-matriculated students” sometimes includes international students who need to complete a course in English at a top university in order to demonstrate that they are capable of attending. How might they accomplish this goal if enrollment for non-matriculated students is eliminated?

Lastly, members noted that it was unfortunate that UCLA Extension was not asked to opine separately on the issue as they might have offered valuable insights on online programming. Why were they not consulted?

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the interim Committee on Continuing and Community Education analyst, Emily Le, at ele@senate.ucla.edu.