

February 16, 2022

To: Jody Kreiman, Chair, Academic Senate

From: Li Cai, Chair, Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools

Re: Systemwide Senate Review: Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation 424.A.3

At its meeting on February 11, 2022, the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools (CUARS) reviewed the Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation 424.A.3. The proposed revision involves the addition of at least one-half unit of an Area “H” Ethnic Studies course among the minimum 15 A-G requirements for freshman admission to the University. Area H aligns with a new Ethnic Studies requirement for California K-12 without adding to the total number of required courses in the A-G pattern.

Members recommended that the existing A-G requirements continue to be designated as such, and that the University refrain from using the “Area H” designation to avoid confusion. To better assist counselors and students in understanding the requirements, members encourage the development of explicit guidelines and dedicated resources.

Noting wide gaps in A-G availability across California, some members also commented that the requirement may pose challenges for students and teachers from certain school districts. It was suggested, from a pedagogical standpoint, that the expectation that qualifying courses must fulfill all the content and skills guidelines may be unrealistic. Some members noted that the requirement may further complicate comparisons of applicants applying from states that explicitly prohibit certain content in their Ethnic Studies curricula.

Thank you for the opportunity to opine. If you have any questions, please contact me via the CUARS analyst, Julia Nelsen, at jnelsen@senate.ucla.edu.

CC: Jessica Cattelino, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Academic Senate
April de Stefano, Executive Director, Academic Senate
Julia Nelsen, Committee Analyst, Undergraduate Council
Peter Petersen, Vice Chair, Undergraduate Council
Shane White, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate