

October 25, 2022

To: Jessica Cattelino, Chair, Academic Senate

From: Kathleen Bawn, Chair, Undergraduate Council

Re: Systemwide Senate Review: Proposed Senate Regulation 479 (Cal-GETC)

At its meeting on October 21, 2022, the Undergraduate Council reviewed Senate Regulation 479, proposed by the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates, which establishes a single lower-division general education pathway that meets California community college transfer requirements for admission to the University of California and California State University.

Members generally support efforts to streamline course requirements for transfer students. Some members clarification as to how UCLA's unique Diversity course requirement would differ from the Cal-GETC Ethnic Studies requirement. Others expressed concern about UC's stipulation to remove the Language Other than English proficiency requirement from the pathway pattern, noting that it would be best from an instructional resource standpoint for students to fulfill this requirement before transferring. Reducing pathway requirements means that students will have to take more classes upon transferring to UC, resulting in additional costs and time-to-degree for students compared to taking the courses at a community college, and for the University to provide the classes.

Although California AB 928 legislation states that Cal-GETC can be used to satisfy General Education/Breadth requirements (similar to the current IGETC pattern), it also states that each school can determine whether or not they would accept it. But if the requirements are significantly lower than what the University requires of first year admits, that puts us in the position of either not supporting transfers or having vastly different requirements for the same degree. Increasing the number of students transfer to UC is just one measure of success; an equally important measure of success is the number of students who graduate.

Thank you for the opportunity to opine. With questions, please contact us via the Undergraduate Council's analyst, Julia Nelsen, at jnelsen@senate.ucla.edu.

cc: April de Stefano, Executive Director, Academic Senate
Andrea Kasko, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Academic Senate
Julia Nelsen, Committee Analyst, Undergraduate Council
Anne Warlaumont, Vice Chair, Undergraduate Council
Shane White, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate