The College FEC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions to the Senate Regulation 424.A.3 (Area D) – Minimum Requirements for admissions for Graduates of Secondary Schools in California. We reviewed the document at our meeting on October 20, 2017. We were joined by Professor William Sandoval who served on the systemwide faculty work group. After a lengthy discussion, the committee voted to support the revisions (4 approve, 2 oppose, 2 abstain).

Following the presentation by Professor Sandoval some committee members expressed the desirability of making explicit what are the performance expectations for students entering the UC system. Specifically, faculty members were concerned about ensuring that the approved courses satisfy in substance the requirements that are set. Also, while members appreciated that the required number of units was being increased from two to three, many expressed concerns that the term “laboratory” was going to be removed from the name of the requirement. The committee also discussed how the “fundamental disciplines” of biology, chemistry, and physics did not align with the Next Generation Science Standards and its four core categories of Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences, and Engineering, Technology and Applications of Science.

As always, our membership appreciates the consultative process and welcomes the opportunity to participate in the discussion of important matters like this. You are welcome to contact me at tornell@econ.ucla.edu with questions. Mitsue Yokota, Academic Administrator, is also available to assist you and she can be reached at (310) 794-5665 or myokota@college.ucla.edu.

cc:  Lucy Blackmar, Assistant Vice Provost, Undergraduate Education Initiatives
     Valeria Dimas, Executive Assistant, Academic Senate
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