

Chairs' & Center Directors' Meeting Minutes

Date: January 12, 2009 (12:00 to 2:00 pm)

Location: EBU II – Room 443

Attendees: Abbaschian, Reza
Balandin, Alex
Bhanu, Bir
Bhuyan, Laxmi
Boretz, Mitch
Chen, Wilfred (for Yushan Yan)
Dexter, Jim
Haddon, Robert
Hartney, Pat
Lake, Roger
Mahalingam, Shankar
Matsumoto, Mark
Payne, Tom
Ravishankar, China
Schultz, Jerry

Absent: Barth, Matt
Norbeck, Joe
Parker, Linda
Yan, Yushan

The agenda for the meeting is shown in Appendix 1.

1. Welcome – Request for Agenda Items from the Floor – Reza

2. Minutes Approval - Pat

The minutes of the 12/1/08 Chairs/Directors meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

3. Commencement Schedule - Reza

Reza noted the 2009 Commencement schedule attached to the agenda. BCoE's Commencement ceremony will not be joint with CNAS this year but will include both undergraduate and graduate students. BCoE's Commencement is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2009 at 6pm. It is expected to end around 8:30pm. Reza asked if departments wanted to hold separate commencement receptions or participate in a single reception for all of BCoE. After discussion, it was recommended that a joint BCoE Commencement reception be scheduled before the ceremony, starting around 4pm. Pat will investigate use of the Commons for this reception. We are asking Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla Motors, to be BCoE's Commencement speaker. Elon is also CEO and CTO of Space Exploration Technologies (SpaceX) and Chairman of the board of Solar City. Previously, Elon co-founded Zip2 and PayPal. If he's unavailable, Reza will ask for nominations from department Chairs.

4. DSSG Nominations – Reza

Reza called attention to the letter from the Institute for Defense Analyses attached to the agenda. This letter invites nominations of faculty to participate in DARPA's Defense Science Study Group (DSSG) program. This (2 year) program introduces young professors (under 40) in science, math and engineering to U.S. national security challenges. Reza encouraged departments to nominate BCoE faculty to this and other national award or service programs since at a minimum, such nominations generate publicity for BCoE. Nominees rarely succeed on their first try but they need to keep applying. Mitch mentioned that Christian Shelton was recently selected to participate in DARPA's Computer Science Study Group (CSSG).

5. EDUC 320A, B, C - Reza

Reza pointed out the EDUC 320 information attached to the agenda. These courses were developed by UCR's Graduate School of Education to assist future teachers in understanding technology and how to apply it in classrooms. It was noted that UCR's Copernicus Project can also provide assistance to instructors and that Frank Vahid and Tom Stahovich are interested in this area.

6. Budget Situation Update – Reza

Reza remarked that the state budget for FY 08/09 is still not finalized and that the Governor has asked that most state employees take 1-2 days of (unpaid) furloughs each month. The Governor has cut UC's budget by \$65M this year which translates to \$8M for UCR. Another \$33M reduction to UC is likely this fiscal year which would equate to an additional \$5M cut for UCR. The Governor's budget for FY 09/10 does not include funding for UCR's School of Medicine. UC has recently signed contracts with labor unions which include 1-1.5% salary increases (which are not included in UC's state budget funding). Also, Reza indicated that many UC capital projects have been stopped due to loss of state bond funding. Every UCR building project has been affected. UCR has enough internal funding to continue work on the MS&E Building for the next 60 days. Ironically, work on EBUIII may start early (in summer 2009) due to the Governor's plan to stimulate the state's economy. Reza stated that senior UC administrators (including Chancellors and Deans) will not receive pay increases this year. Pat emphasized that any budget reductions imposed on BCoE will not affect faculty Internal Allocation Accounts (IAA) since the Dean's Office views these allocations as commitments to faculty, similar to Initial Complements. However, Reza indicated that PhD Reward allocations to faculty will not be made until the end of the fiscal year when more budget information is available. In response to a question about return of indirect cost to faculty, Reza stated that a UCR committee has been formed to work on a new IDC allocation policy. Robert Haddon and Ashok Mulchandani are BCoE's members on this committee. Reza indicated that sabbatical leaves should not be affected by the budget situation and that this year's BCoE faculty searches should continue. Mitch asked if UC may have to issue IOU's instead of paychecks in the next few months. Pat responded that there has been no discussion of this possibility yet at UCR. Pat reiterated that this year's initial budget cut to BCoE is being funded by salary savings but that any additional reductions may have to be funded by other sources. He is particularly concerned that these (Temporary Fund) reductions will turn into Permanent Fund budget cuts which will require BCoE to reduce funds to departments including Instructional Equipment, Lecturers, etc. In that regard, Reza stated that approximately one-half of this year's Instructional Equipment funds will be disbursed to departments at this time. Any remaining allocations will need to be made after the final budget cuts are known.

7. Graduate Education - Mark

Mark distributed the 1/7/09 summary of BCoE's graduate student application data. He noted that a total of 1,050 applications have been received to date versus 997 at this time last year. Most of this increase is due to a higher number of international student applications this year than last year (935 vs 883). He noted that another 500 applications are in process, many of which are from domestic students. Also, Mark stated that financial packages have been increased from \$13,500 to \$18,600 per student by the Grad Division. He noted that these funds need to be used as recruitment funds and cannot be held as reserves. However, the Grad Division will provide any additional funds needed to cover UCR fee increases. Mark noted that the new BCoE BS/MS program seems to be having an impact on enrollments. It was suggested that BCoE Grad Assistants should discuss ways to take advantage of this program. Reza pointed out that faculty should encourage our own students to apply to BCoE for graduate studies. One reason is that a larger number of applicants helps to increase BCoE's selectivity (which is a national ranking criteria). Mark stated that departments should try to reach their graduate student targets and that the Grad Division will provide additional funding for PhD students (only) above BCoE's grad student target (of 130). Mark emphasized that there are only 72 NRT's available and that each department has its own target. Lastly, it was noted that UCR continues to inform grad student applicants that they don't have to reply to offers until April 15th. BCoE would like to de-emphasize this statement so that applicants are encouraged to respond earlier.

8. Undergraduate Education - Ravi

Ravi stated that two new BCoE staff positions will be funded from his new Title V grant. The first will be a Student Affairs Pre-Matriculate Advisor focused on community colleges. The second position will work with Jun Wang on career placement and related tasks. Reza called attention to his recent message sent to BCoE faculty that announced the UCR grant to support Hispanic and low-income students at UCR who are pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The funding available in this grant includes student salary up to 12 hours/week (at \$11.50/hr) as well as some supply and equipment funds. Funds will continue to be available in the summer and for the 2009/10 academic year. Interested faculty need to submit an application to the UCR Undergraduate Education Office by 1/15/09. There have been 12 BCoE applications so far. If known, the Hispanic or low-income student can be identified in the application; otherwise, Undergrad Education will match students with successful applicants. Reza will re-send his message to Chairs and Directors.

Ravi distributed a summary of BCoE undergraduate applications to date. The total number has increased by 18% from last year. Most of this increase seems to be due to the number applying to BCoE's BS/MS programs. It was noted that EE's BS/MS program has not yet been approved. Ravi stated that it appears that only 133 of the 804 BS/MS applicants qualify for the program (due to GPA and/or SAT score criteria). Ravi stated that BCoE Student Affairs will identify qualified BS/MS students each Fall and Winter term and will meet periodically with Grad Advisors. Ravi then distributed a summary of the institutions where accepted BCoE freshmen go instead of attending UCR. He noted that a high number go to other UC campuses, particularly UCI, UCLA and UCSB. Also, many are lost to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly, Pomona. Also, Ravi noted that Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo's recruitment materials are very well done and appear to be very effective. Lastly, Ravi distributed a similar summary for UCI's School of Engineering. This summary indicated that UCI lost most of its applicants to UCLA, UCSD, UCB and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

9. Other Items

Jerry mentioned that Prof. Hyle Park has arrived on-campus. Reza pointed out that NIH is providing 75% of Prof. Park's salary for the next 3 years.

Similarly, it was noted that Prof. Rau and Prof. Haberer have arrived in ME and EE respectively.

Bir mentioned that the department has started to review the 200 faculty applications it has received to date.

Wilfred indicated that CEE has developed a short list of six faculty applicants.

Reza handed out a letter from John Briggs, Director of UCR's Writing Program, that inquired about the possibility of BCoE courses that could be alternatives to English 1C. It was noted that ENGR 180 (Technical Communications) could be such a candidate. However, BCoE will need additional TA and lecturer resources to offer the additional sections necessary. Another option would be to initiate a new course (ENGR 179) as this alternative so that it would be easier to keep track of the additional resources needed.

10. Closed Session



Chairs' & Center Directors' Meeting

January 12, 2009

Agenda

Engineering Building Unit II – Room 443

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|-----|---|--------|
| 1. | Welcome - Request for Agenda Items from the Floor | Reza |
| 2. | Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2008 Meeting | Pat |
| 3. | Commencement Schedule | Chairs |
| 4. | DSSG Nominations | Reza |
| 5. | EDUC 320A, B, C | Reza |
| 6. | Budget Situation Update | Reza |
| 7. | Graduate Education | Mark |
| 8. | Undergraduate Education | Ravi |
| 9. | Other Items | Pat |
| 10. | Closed Session | |

Please note: at the January 26th meeting, Vice Chancellor for Research, Charles Louis & Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research, Bruce Morgan will be making a 30 minute presentation regarding Federal Regulations. They will be joining the meeting at 1:30pm

The next scheduled meeting will be
Monday, January 26, 2009

Please note: Meetings will be held in EBU II – Room 443

Date: 12/1/08

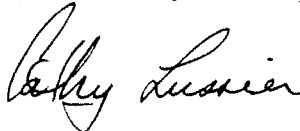
Reza Abbaschian
Dean, Bourns College of Engineering
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Child
8 hours lecture +
3 hours Lab +
3 hours field trip

Dear Reza,

I know we spoke the other Saturday at the Copernicus/MESA student and parent information SUCCES Day. At that time you had asked for a copy of the Education 320 A/B/C technology sequence syllabi and handouts. I've enclosed a hard copy and PDF electronic copy (on a CD) here with this note. As you may remember this is a class that we created within the Graduate School of Education that is designed to assist future teachers with learning the technology and how to apply it to their classroom. We assume nothing in the class starting with the most basic (such as demonstrating knowledge of how to use e-mail, Word, and Excel) and building to more detailed assignments (such as creating a small video and PDF based electronic portfolio).

If you have any further questions feel free to contact me.



Cathy Lussier, Ph.D.

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EDUC 320A – Integrating Technology Into Classroom Practice

Instructor: Dr. Cathy Lussier

E-mail: cathyswork@aol.com or cathy.lussier@ucr.edu

Phone: (951) 827-3167 (emergency messages only)

Course Objectives

EDUC 320A is designed to help you meet the California State Requirements for technology proficiency for credential candidates. Most of the basic skills needed will be in Educ 320A. Educ 320B & C will concentrate on applying and furthering these required skills to tasks that will hopefully enhance your teaching practice and help provide new learning opportunities

Requirements

1. Attendance

First Day - The Educ 320A Class is a little unusual in that it meets only once as group officially during the quarter. At that first class meeting you will receive your technology assignments, information about the Task Check List, and information about the security, safety and privacy considerations of technology use in your work and in your classrooms. Attendance at this first class is mandatory as important lab assignment information is given. Completing the items on the Task Checklist in the manner described in each Task handout, will allow you to pass the class. Incomplete Task Checklists will result in a no-pass or incomplete for the class.

Lab - There will be a series of lab workshops (see dates on page 2) in **Sproul 1224 (unless otherwise noted)**. These lab sessions are where you can come into the Sproul 1224 computer lab and seek help on the assigned tasks from the instructor. These sessions are not mandatory. Attendance is not taken. They are help session only. However, if you choose not to attend then it is your responsibility to get the task assignment done correctly in order to demonstrate competency on each item and have it checked off. You may work on your own in the other lab in **Sproul 1343**.

2. Task Checklist

Where To Find It - A copy of the Task Checklist is on the university Blackboard website under the Educ 320 class (www.ilearn.ucr.edu).

Important Note - Some of these skills listed on the Task Checklist will be review for some, while for others they will be new. However, in order to receive credit all students must demonstrate the skills required by the Task Checklist or you will not pass the class.

EDUC 320B – Integrating Technology Into Classroom Practice

Instructor: Dr. Cathy Lussier

E-mail: cathyswork@aol.com or cathy.lussier@ucr.edu

Phone: (951) 827-3167 (emergency messages only)

Course Objectives

EDUC 320B is designed to help you meet the California State Requirements for technology proficiency for credential candidates. Most of the basic skills needed, will have been begun in Educ 320A, Educ 320B & C will concentrate on applying and furthering these required skills to tasks that will hopefully enhance your teaching practice and help provide new learning opportunities.

Requirements

1. Attendance

First Day - The Educ 320B Class is a little unusual in that it meets only once officially during the quarter. At that first class meeting you will receive your technology assignments, information about the Task Check List, and information about the security, safety and privacy considerations of technology use in your work and in your classrooms. Attendance at this first class is mandatory as important lab assignment information is given. Completing the items on the Task Checklist in the manner described in each Task handout, will allow you to pass the class. Incomplete Task Checklists will result in a no-pass or incomplete for the class.

Lab - There will be a series of lab workshops (see dates on page 2) in **Sproul 1224 (unless otherwise noted)**. These lab sessions are where you can come into the Sproul 1224 computer lab and seek help on the assigned tasks from the instructor. These sessions are not mandatory. Attendance is not taken. They are help session only. However, if you choose not to attend then it is your responsibility to get the task assignment done correctly in order to demonstrate competency on each item and have it checked off. You may work on your own in the other lab in **Sproul 1343**.

2. Task Checklist

Where To Find It - A copy of the Task Checklist is on the university Blackboard website under the Educ 320 class (www.ilearn.ucr.edu).

Important Note - Some of these skills listed on the Task Checklist will be review for some, while for others they will be new. However, in order to receive credit all students must demonstrate the skills required by the Task Checklist or you will not pass the class.

EDUC 320C – Integrating Technology Into Classroom Practice

Instructor: Dr. Cathy Lussier

E-mail: cathyswork@aol.com

Phone: (951) 827-3167 (emergency messages only)

Course Objectives

EDUC 320C is designed to help you meet the California State Requirements for technology proficiency for credential candidates. Most of the basic skills needed, were begun in Educ 320A and Educ 320B, Educ C will concentrate on applying and furthering these required skills to tasks that will hopefully enhance your teaching practice and help provide new learning opportunities.

1. Attendance

First Day - The Educ 320B Class is a little unusual in that it meets only once officially during the quarter. At that first class meeting you will receive your technology assignments, information about the Task Check List, and information about the security, safety and privacy considerations of technology use in your work and in your classrooms. Attendance at this first class is mandatory as important lab assignment information is given. Completing the items on the Task Checklist in the manner described in each Task handout, will allow you to pass the class. Incomplete Task Checklists will result in a no-pass or incomplete for the class.

Lab - There will be a series of lab workshops (see dates on page 2) in **Sproul 1224 (unless otherwise noted)**. These lab sessions are where you can come into the Sproul 1224 computer lab and seek help on the assigned tasks from the instructor. These sessions are not mandatory. They are instructional help sessions. However, if you choose not to attend then it is your responsibility to get the task assignment done correctly in order to demonstrate competency on each item and have it checked off. You may work on your own in the other lab in **Sproul 1343**.

2. Task Checklist

Where To Find It - A copy of the Task Checklist is on the university Blackboard website under the Educ 320 class (www.jlearn.ucr.edu).

Important Note - Some of these skills listed on the Task Checklist will be review for some, while for others they will be new. However, in order to receive credit all students must demonstrate the skills required by the Task Checklist or you will not pass the class.

2009-10 BCOE GRADUATE RECRUITMENT TARGETS

Dept	M.S.	Ph.D.	Total
BIEN	5	10	15
CEE	2	18	20
CSE	10	30	40
EE	15	30	45
ME	2	8	10
Subtotal	34	96	130

Graduate Division Data as of January 7, 2009

International Students									
Program	Apps			Admits			Accepts		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
BIEN		17	21	0	0	0	0	0	0
CEE		78	105	0	0	0	0	0	0
CS		347	381	0	0	0	0	0	0
EE		368	374	0	0	0	0	0	0
ME		73	54	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>		883	935	0	0	0	0	0	0

Domestic Students									
Program	Apps			Admits			Accepts		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
BIEN		24	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
CEE		23	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
CS		31	41	0	0	0	0	0	0
EE		28	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
ME		8	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>		114	115	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total Students									
Program	Apps			Admits			Accepts		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
BIEN	8	41	38	0	0	0	0	0	0
CEE	105	101	122	0	0	0	0	0	0
CS	271	378	422	0	0	0	0	0	0
EE	270	396	401	0	0	0	0	0	0
ME	80	81	67	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>	734	997	1050	0	0	0	0	0	0

Unit	Apps		Admits		Accepts	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
BCOE	997	1050	0	0	0	0
CHASS	993	1098	0	0	0	0
CNAS	1100	1149	0	6	0	0
DBS	27	40	0	0	0	0
AGSM	70	97	2	1	1	0
GSOE	86	106	8	3	3	2
<i>Total</i>	3273	3540	10	10	4	2

FRESHMEN MAJOR	1/9/2009 Applicants	BS + (BS+MS)	1/8/2008 Applicants	Increase	Qualified BS+MS (GPA > 3.6, SAT >1900)
Bioengineering	296		260	14%	
Business_Informatics	39		33	18%	
Chemical_Engineering	164		203	-19%	
Chemical_Engineering_BS+MS	101	265		31%	23
Computer_Engineering	437		495	-12%	
Computer_Science	271		422	-36%	
Computer_Science_BS+MS	244	515		22%	49
Electrical_Engineering	325		293	11%	
Environmental_Engineering	123		116	6%	
Environmental_Engineering_BS+MS	116	239		106%	18
Materials_Science_and_Engineering	31		53	-42%	
Mechanical_Engineering	425		598	-29%	
Mechanical_Engineering_BS+MS	343	768		28%	43
TOTALS					
BS + (BS+MS)	2915		2473	18%	
BS+MS Only	804				133

Top 30 College Destinations of UC Riverside Denied Applicants and Admits in Engineering and Computer Science, Fall 2007

Denied Applicants		Admits	
Institution	#	Institution	#
ALL APPLICANTS	3,016	ALL APPLICANTS	3,016
ALL DENIED APPLICANTS	352	ALL ADMITS	2,664
CAL POLY-POMONA	44	UC- RIVERSIDE	353
CAL POLY-SAN LUIS OBISPO	12	CAL POLY-SAN LUIS OBISPO	288
CSU- FULLERTON	11	UC-IRVINE	215
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY	11	CAL POLY-POMONA	197
CSU- LONG BEACH	9	UC-SAN DIEGO	129
CSU- NORTHRIDGE	9	UC-LOS ANGELES	108
CSU- SAN BERNARDINO	9	UC-DAVIS	104
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY	9	SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY	95
CSU- LOS ANGELES	7	UC-SANTA BARBARA	83
MOUNT SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE	5	UC-BERKELEY	63
MOUNT SAN JACINTO COLLEGE	5	SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY	61
UC-DAVIS	5	UC-SANTA CRUZ	53
CSU- SACRAMENTO	4	CSU- LONG BEACH	50
CSU- SAN MARCOS	4	UC-MERCED	39
DE ANZA COLLEGE	4	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	30
LOS ANGELES PIERCE COLLEGE	4	CSU- FULLERTON	26
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY	4	LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY	24
SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE	4	CSU- SACRAMENTO	22
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE	4	CSU- NORTHRIDGE	20
UC-SANTA CRUZ	4	DE ANZA COLLEGE	17
COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS	3	CSU- CHICO	16
CSU- CHICO	3	EL CAMINO COLLEGE	10
CSU- DOMINGUEZ HILLS	3	GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	10
DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE	3	RENSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE	10
EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE	3	SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY	10
EL CAMINO COLLEGE	3	CSU- FRESNO	9
ORANGE COAST COLLEGE	3	PASADENA CITY COLLEGE	9
PASADENA CITY COLLEGE	3	UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC	9
RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	3	ORANGE COAST COLLEGE	8
SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY	3	SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY	8

Lost to all UCs 794
 Lost to UCI,UCLA, UCSB 406
 Lost to Cal Polys 485
 Lost to CalStates 784
 Lost to CCs 54

Top 30 College Destinations of UC Irvine Denied Applicants and Admits in Engineering and Computer Science, Fall 2007

Denied Applicants		Admits	
Institution	#	Institution	#
ALL APPLICANTS	6,373	ALL APPLICANTS	6,373
ALL DENIED APPLICANTS	2,601	ALL ADMITS	3,772
UC- RIVERSIDE	278	UC-IRVINE	692
CAL POLY-POMONA	239	UC-LOS ANGELES	555
CAL POLY-SAN LUIS OBISPO	236	UC-SAN DIEGO	454
UC-DAVIS	164	UC-BERKELEY	342
UC-SANTA CRUZ	105	CAL POLY-SAN LUIS OBISPO	296
UC-SANTA BARBARA	94	UC-DAVIS	196
CSU- LONG BEACH	93	UC-SANTA BARBARA	133
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY	70	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	110
UC-SAN DIEGO	63	CAL POLY-POMONA	59
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY	60	UC- RIVERSIDE	38
CSU- FULLERTON	50	UC-SANTA CRUZ	30
CSU- NORTHRIDGE	34	STANFORD UNIVERSITY	27
UC-LOS ANGELES	29	JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY	22
UC-MERCED	28	SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY	22
CSU- LOS ANGELES	24	SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY	21
ORANGE COAST COLLEGE	23	CSU- LONG BEACH	20
DE ANZA COLLEGE	20	LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY	17
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE	17	UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON - SEATTLE	17
EL CAMINO COLLEGE	15	HARVEY MUDD COLLEGE	16
PASADENA CITY COLLEGE	15	UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC	13
CSU- CHICO	14	SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY	12
LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY	14	CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	11
MOUNT SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE	14	CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY	11
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY	12	CSU- FRESNO	11
CSU- SACRAMENTO	11	UC-MERCED	11
SACRAMENTO CITY COLLEGE-LOS RIOS CC DISTRICT	11	NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY	10
SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY	11	UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-CENTRAL CAMPUS	10
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER	11	DUKE UNIVERSITY	9
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON - SEATTLE	11	HARVARD UNIVERSITY	9
GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	10	RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE	8

Note: This table includes freshmen who applied to Engineering and Computer Science.

January 7, 2009

TO: Reza Abba, Dean of Engineering

FROM: John Briggs, Professor of English and Director,
University Writing Program

RE: Writing Across the Curriculum

(Please distribute to the various chairs in Engineering)

I am writing in the hope I can meet with you in the next few weeks to discuss the UCR writing requirement and your department's participation in writing across the curriculum. The Senate is beginning to discuss the University Writing Program's proposal to diversify the way students fulfill the third-quarter writing requirement. English 1C would continue to be available, but other writing-intensive courses that are taught in various departments would be eligible to become alternative pathways. The UWP would provide various kinds of assistance to facilitate departmental participation: targeted workshops and tutorials as well as TA training. The possibility of arranging assistance by UWP TAs would also be explored on a case-by-case basis.

I am anxious to meet with you to talk about courses in your department that might be candidates to become alternatives to English 1C. I would not be asking for any commitments, only consideration of a new way of doing things that would benefit departments, their majors and graduate students, and the campus as a whole.

I look forward to opening a channel of communication with you and your department.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Regina Buttram at X27760 to help us set up an appointment. I hope to visit as many chairs as possible this month.