

**THE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STANDARDS AND POLICY  
STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

**Date:** August 1, 2008

**From:** Hester Gelber, Chair of C-USP (Winter 2006-07 through Spring 2007-08)  
Philippe Buc, Chair of C-USP (2008-09)

**To:** Karen Cook, Chair  
XLI Senate of the Academic Council

**Re:** Annual Report of the Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy, 2007-2008

**There are no items in this report that require Senate action.**

***Membership of C-USP for the academic year 2007-2008:***

Hester Gelber, Religious Studies (Chair)  
David Beach, Mechanical Engineering  
Chris Bobonich, Philosophy  
Carrie Cai, Student Representative  
Anne Fernald, Psychology  
Ted Glasser, Communication (joined Winter Quarter)  
Julie Kennedy, Earth Systems  
Aman Kumar, Student Representative  
Doug Osheroff, Physics  
Jessie Tao, Student Representative  
Thomas C. Black, *ex officio* (University Registrar)  
John Bravman, *ex officio* (Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education)  
Brad Osgood, *ex officio* (Senior Associate Dean, School of Engineering)  
Susan Stephens, *ex officio* (Senior Associate Dean for Graduate/Undergraduate Studies,  
Humanities & Sciences)

**Frequently Invited Guests:**

Carol Porter, Senior Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education  
Lorraine Sterritt, Associate Dean for Graduate & Undergraduate Studies, H&S  
or Joseph Brown, Assistant Dean for Graduate & Undergraduate Studies, H&S

There was no Committee on Committees Liaison assigned to C-USP for the 2007-08 year. Lindi Press (Office of the University Registrar) provided staff support for C-USP and for each of its subcommittees. Full contact information for this year's membership is shown as Appendix I, which also includes the rosters of the subcommittees.

C-USP met eleven times during the year 2007-2008, including one joint meeting with the Committee for the Review of Undergraduate Majors (February 8, 2008). A list of the dates, agendas, and report presenters is attached as Appendix II.

## **AGENDA ITEMS THAT CAME TO THE SENATE IN 2007-08**

***Baccalaureate Degrees:*** C-USP once again took formal responsibility for submitting the list of baccalaureate degree candidates eligible for graduation each quarter to the Senate for approval. C-USP and then the Steering Committee proposed the degree candidates with: SenD#6005 on October 11, 2007; SenD#6035 on January 24, 2008; SenD#6081 on April 17, 2008; and SenD#6118 on June 12, 2008.

***SenD#5993: C-USP Annual Report 2006-07.*** Chair Hester Gelber presented the C-USP Annual Report for the 2006-07 academic year to an Administrative Session of the Senate on November 8, 2007.

***SenD#6034: Recommendation for Variance in Area One (IHUM).*** Brad Osgood, ex officio member of C-USP, representing Chair Hester Gelber, presented C-USP's recommendation that IHUM be allowed to undertake experimentation for a three-year period, starting in 2008-09, consistent with the current objectives of Area One, and with the authority to certify for the requirement courses whose structure may exhibit a different form than prescribed in the IHUM Legislation while maintaining equitable workload standards for students. Students who complete such experimental courses will receive full credit for satisfying the first-year requirement. The full Senate approved this recommendation on February 21, 2008.

***SenD#6090: Ten-Year Report on Area One.*** Brad Osgood, ex officio member of C-USP, representing Chair Hester Gelber, presented C-USP's report on Area One (primarily the Introduction to the Humanities Program) on May 15, 2008. This was a 10-year review, as mandated by the Senate when IHUM was initiated. C-USP recommended that IHUM remain in place, noting that there have been a number of changes in the last few years, and that the program is constantly assessing its value to students. Experiments envisaged could include three-quarter course sequences, residence-based courses like SLE, and reversing the order of the interdisciplinary/ disciplinary progression of courses.

It should be noted that the Committee on Committees recommended a change to the C-USP charge to the Senate on January 24, 2008 (SenD#6042 and SenD#6043). The Senate approved the recommendation to have the Committee on Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation (CAPER) present an annual report to C-USP.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS THAT DID NOT COME TO THE SENATE**

C-USP received annual reports, as a matter of routine, from the following divisions:

***Introduction to the Humanities (IHUM).*** Russell Berman, Director, and Ellen Woods, Associate Director, presented the IHUM Annual Report to C-USP on October 5, 2007. The IHUM report in 2006-07 had been the 10-year overview, so this year's report was primarily an addition to the materials presented at that time. IHUM also requested a variance in its initial charge that would allow for wider choices in faculty and courses for the first, interdisciplinary quarter of instruction.

*Undergraduate Advising and Research.* Susie Brubaker-Cole, Director, and Beth Fox (Sophomore Advising) reported to C-USP on May 23, 2008. The UAR focused on three specific areas in their work this year: the state of the sophomore experience, the role of peers in undergraduate advising, and the role of Academic Council faculty as freshman advisors.

*Program in Writing and Rhetoric.* Andrea Lunsford, Director; Marvin Diogenes, Associate Director; Claude Reichard, Director, Writing the Major; and Clyde Moneyhun, Director, Writing Center, brought their annual report to C-USP on May 9, 2008. The discussion included improvements in assigning students to PWR-1 courses and the increased Introductory Seminars that also carry the PWR-2 designation. The full report is available on request from the Academic Committee Coordinator.

*Rhodes/Marshall/Churchill Committee.* John Pearson, Co-Chair of this Committee, presented the Annual Report on May 23, 2008. Stanford's numbers remain high, and the continuing use of alumni mentors for current applicants is a strong point in developing strong applicants for these fellowships.

*The Bing Overseas Studies Program* and the *Language Center* had provided extensive reports to C-USP in 2006-07, which included items and areas planned for the 2007-08 year (e.g., the opening of the Madrid campus). For this reason, and to allow as much time as possible to concentrate on other areas of the freshman year, no reports from these two units were scheduled.

#### **C-USP SUBCOMMITTEES (Memberships are noted as part of Appendix I.)**

The Subcommittee on Exceptions to Academic Policy (S-EAP), which is convened on an as-needed basis, met twice during the year to review undergraduates' petitions.

The Subcommittee on University Honors (S-UH), chaired this year by Ellen Porzig (Professor, Developmental Biology), completed its work on the Dinkelspiel, Gores and Cuthbertson Awards, and brought its list of award recipients to C-USP on May 9, 2008. The report was presented by Thomas Black, University Registrar.

The Subcommittee on Residential Education and Advising (S-REA) was not convened this year, as the STEER group (VPUE and VPSA staffing) was still working on its overview of undergraduate residential education. STEER members John Bravman (VPUE), Greg Boardman (VPSA), and John Pearson (Interim Director, Residential Education) presented an oral report to C-USP on January 18, 2008.

The Subcommittee on General Education Requirements (S-GER) met once each quarter to review proposals of courses submitted for the Education for Citizenship GERs in American Cultures, Global Community, or Gender Studies.

The Ethical Reasoning Advisory Board continued to discuss ways to encourage new courses that will meet the criteria for the Education for Citizenship GER in Ethical Reasoning. The actual number of proposals dropped in 2007-08; three courses were approved for the EC:EthReas GER.

**PLANNING FOR 2008-09**

A ten-year report on the Program and Writing and Rhetoric will come to the Senate in 2008-09 if it is determined that the original legislation called for the same kind of review at this stage that C-USP provided for Area One (IHUM).

One suggestion that had been made during a S-EAP meeting was to discuss improving the ways to communicate the Honor Code and Fundamental Standard to students (this could be done for graduate students as well as undergraduates).

There will also be proposals coming to C-USP and C-GS for changes in the academic calendar.

## APPENDIX I: C-USP MEMBERSHIP AND SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Hester Gelber, Chair Religious Studies	<a href="mailto:hgelber@stanford.edu">hgelber@stanford.edu</a> Bldg 70; MC 2165	3-0472 9/05-6/08
David Beach Mechanical Engineering	<a href="mailto:dbeach@stanford.edu">dbeach@stanford.edu</a> Terman 515DD; MC 4021	3-3917 9/06-6/09
Tom Black, ex officio University Registrar	tblack@stanford.edu 630 Serra St, Suite 120; MC 6032	3-1550
John Bravman, ex officio Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education	<a href="mailto:bravman@stanford.edu">bravman@stanford.edu</a> Sweet Hall; MC 3091	3-3698
Chris Bobonich Philosophy	<a href="mailto:bobonich@stanford.edu">bobonich@stanford.edu</a> Bldg 100-102H; MC 2155	4-0807 9/06-6/09
Tom Byers Management Science & Engineering	tbyers@stanford.edu Terman 417; MC 4026	5-8271 9/07-6/10
Carrie Cai (student representative) Human Biology, Education	<a href="mailto:cicai@stanford.edu">cicai@stanford.edu</a>	
Anne Fernald Psychology	<a href="mailto:afernald@stanford.edu">afernald@stanford.edu</a> Bldg 420/278; MC 2130	5-2421 9/06-6/09
Ted Glasser Communication	<a href="mailto:glasser@stanford.edu">glasser@stanford.edu</a> McClatchy Hall; MC 2050	3-0962 1/07-6/09
Julie Kennedy Earth Systems	<a href="mailto:juliek@pangea.stanford.edu">juliek@pangea.stanford.edu</a> Mitchell Bldg; MC 2210	5-4911 9/05-6/08
Aman Kumar (student representative) Symbolic Systems	<a href="mailto:aman@cs.stanford.edu">aman@cs.stanford.edu</a>	
Brad Osgood, ex officio Sr Assoc Dean, SoE/Electrical Engineering	osgood@stanford.edu Terman 208; MC 4027/Packard Bldg #261; MC 9510	3-9106/3-4002
Doug Osheroff Physics	<a href="mailto:osheroff@stanford.edu">osheroff@stanford.edu</a> Varian 150; MC 4060	3-4228 9/06-6/09
Susan Stephens, ex officio Sr Assoc Dean for Grad/UG Studies, H&S	<a href="mailto:susanas@stanford.edu">susanas@stanford.edu</a> Bldg One; MC 2070	5-0774
Jessie Tao (student representative) Biological Sciences/Economics	<a href="mailto:jtao@stanford.edu">jtao@stanford.edu</a>	
<hr/>		
Lindi Press, Staff Academic Committee Coordinator	<a href="mailto:lindi.press@stanford.edu">lindi.press@stanford.edu</a> 630 Serra Street; MC 6032	5-1894
Frequently Invited Guests:		
* Carol Porter, Sr Assoc VPUE	<a href="mailto:porterc@stanford.edu">porterc@stanford.edu</a> / 4-9333 / Sweet Hall; MC 3082	
* Joseph Brown, Asst Dean Gr/UG St, H&S (often replaced by Lorraine Sterrit, Assoc Dean Gr/UG St, H&S)	<a href="mailto:jlbrown@stanford.edu">jlbrown@stanford.edu</a> / 4-7437 / Bldg One; MC 2070	

*Subcommittee on Exceptions to Academic Policy*

Hester Gelber (Chair), Religious Studies  
Anne Fernald, Psychology  
Julie Kennedy, Earth Systems  
Thomas C. Black, University Registrar

*Subcommittee on University Honors*

Ellen Porzig, Developmental Biology (Chair)  
Donald Barr, Sociology  
John Bravman, VPUE  
Helen Brooks, English  
Dennis Carter, Biomedical Engineering  
Michele Landis Dauber, Law  
Dandre DeSandies, Undergraduate Advising Center  
Mona Duggan, Cantor Center  
David Freyberg, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Chris Griffith, Associate VPSA  
Margaret Kimball, University Archivist  
Thomas C. Black, University Registrar  
Elizabeth Pratt, Student Representative  
(Human Biology, Minor in Spanish, Honors in Education)

*Subcommittee on General Education Requirements*

Hester Gelber, Religious Studies, Chair  
Chris Bobonich, Philosophy  
Ted Glasser, Communication  
Julie Kennedy, Earth Systems  
Thomas C. Black, University Registrar  
Taylor Phillips, Student Representative

*Ethical Reasoning Advisory Board*

Debra Satz, Philosophy (Chair)  
Lanier Anderson, Philosophy  
Chris Bobonich, Philosophy  
Harry Elam, Drama  
Hester Gelber, Religious Studies  
Julie Kennedy, Earth Systems  
William (Scotty) McClennan, Religious Life  
Josiah Ober, Political Science and Classics  
Rob Reich, Political Science  
Brent Sockness, Religious Studies  
Ellen Woods, IHUM  
Lee Yearley, Religious Studies

## **APPENDIX II: C-USP MEETING DATES, AGENDA ITEMS, AND GUESTS**

October 5, 2007

Welcome, Academic Year Planning, Approval of Annual Report (standard items such as approval of meeting minutes are not included in the remainder of this list)

Request for Athletic Department Exception: Earl Koberlein (Senior Associate Director, Intercollegiate Services, DAPER)

Annual Report: IHUM, and Request for Variance: Russell Berman (Director, IHUM), Ellen Woods (Associate Director, IHUM)

October 19, 2007

Charges to S-EAP and S-GER

Followup discussion: Athletic Department Request for Exception

Followup discussion: IHUM Request for Variance

November 16, 2007

The Freshman Year: Report from Sharon Palmer (Director, Stanford Introductory Seminars)

C-USP letter to IHUM (request for variance)

Academic Deadlines – initial discussion (Thomas Black, University Registrar)

November 30, 2007

The Freshman Year: Report from Julie Lythcott-Haims (Dean of Freshmen and Transfer Students)

January 18, 2008

Report from Stanford Task Force Evaluating Education in the Residences [STEER] (John Bravman, VPUE; Greg Boardman, VPSA; John Pearson, Interim Director of Residential Education)

Department Chair Responses to IHUM Questions

February 1, 2008

Area One Review and Update

Academic Policy: Student Petition (referred to S-EAP)

February 8, 2008

Joint Meeting with C-RUM: Presentation on WASC Accreditation Processes (John Bravman, VPUE, and Susan Stephens, H&S)

February 29, 2008

Area One: Report on Peer Institutions

April 25, 2008

Area One Review (discussion of draft report)

May 9, 2008

Report from Subcommittee on University Honors (Thomas Black, University Registrar)

Annual Report: Program in Writing and Rhetoric (Andrea Lunsford (Director, PWR), Marvin Diogenes (Associate Director, PWR), Claude Reichard (Director, Writing in the Major)

May 23, 2008

Annual Report: Undergraduate Advising and Research (Susie Brubaker-Cole, Director UAR)

Annual Report: Rhodes/Marshall/Churchill Committee (John Pearson, Co-Chair)