Dear Colleagues,

In March 2021, the Academic Senate announced that the following guidelines would be extended through Winter Quarter 2022:

- Undergraduate programs do not need to seek formal approval for existing in-person courses to be offered in a remote or hybrid (i.e. up to half of the in-person meetings have been replaced with online delivery) mode, as a temporary measure, due to COVID-19 restrictions for in-person courses.
- The Subcommittee on Courses and Continuing, Part-Time, and Summer Session Education (SCOC) will continue to consider proposals for fully online courses intended to be offered on a long-term basis. Proposed courses that use online tools to enhance the learning experience beyond that of an in-person course are more likely to be viewed favorably.

Department and Registrar’s Office staff have begun preparing the Spring Quarter 2022 schedule of classes. As a friendly reminder, all online courses must have Academic Senate approval for Spring Quarter 2022 unless there is another surge of COVID cases and the extension of the emergency measure is approved by CEP and Cabinet. Any online courses planned for Spring 2022 and beyond, which are not already approved for 100% online instruction, should be submitted for Senate review via the Course Inventory Management system.

We are aware that many faculty who teach courses that were already approved for traditional in-person delivery are considering maintaining a hybrid format in which one or two in-person lectures per week are replaced with online activities. SCOC and CEP are currently preparing a guide that will define the level of online replacement activities that would require additional SCOC approval. We expect to send this guide for hybrid courses in the first week of November.

Please contact Academic Senate Analyst Malcolm Bourne with any questions.

All best wishes,

Joanna Ho, Chair
Academic Senate, Irvine Division

Melanie Cocco, Chair
Council on Educational Policy

Nancy Aguilar-Roca, Chair
Subcommittee on Courses and Continuing, Part-Time, and Summer Session Education