Accreditation Standards and Criteria for Review

Accreditation Standards serve as a foundation and framework "to guide institutions in self review as a basis for assessing institutional performance and to identify needed areas of improvement." Below you will find a rich variety of campus and system-wide links related to WASC Accreditation Standards and Criteria.

For each of the Criteria for Review associated with each WASC Standard, one or more web links is provided. For each web link there is a name for the link (on which you can click to get to the link), a brief summary of the contents of the link, and the office that is responsible for the link or can serve as a source of more information.

Standard 4: Creating an Organization Committed to Learning and Improvement

The institution conducts sustained, evidence-based, and participatory discussions about how effectively it is accomplishing its purposes and achieving its educational objectives. These activities inform both institutional planning and systematic evaluations of educational effectiveness. The results of institutional inquiry, research, and data collection are used to establish priorities at different levels of the institution, and to revise institutional purposes, structures, and approaches to teaching, learning, and scholarly work.

1. The institution periodically engages its multiple consistencies in institutional reflection and planning processes which assess its strategic position; articulate priorities; examine the alignment of its purposes, core functions and resources; and define the future direction of the institution. The institution monitors the effectiveness of the implementation of its plans and revises them as appropriate. **Guideline:** A clear charge to planning bodies with a regular schedule and the existence of an understandable and coherent plan for assessing the attainment of educational objectives must be developed. Evidence of the ways the results of planning and evaluation are linked to decision-making is demonstrable.
   - **Academic Senate Graduate Council**
     The Graduate Council reviews requests for new graduate and professional programs, modifications to existing programs, and periodically reviews graduate and professional programs.
     Academic Senate
   - **Academic Senate Committee on Educational Policy**
     The Committee on Educational Policy reviews requests for new undergraduate programs, modifications to existing programs, and periodically reviews undergraduate programs.
     Academic Senate
   - **Academic Senate Committee on Courses**
The Committee on Courses reviews and acts on all requests for new courses and changes in existing courses. All requests for new courses or changes in existing courses must include a detailed syllabus for the course.

Academic Senate

- **Procedures for Graduate Program Reviews**

  Document sets forth the procedures for graduate program reviews.

  Academic Senate

- **Graduate Program Review Schedule**

  Document lists the schedule of graduate program reviews at UCR for 2006-07 and 2007-08.

  Academic Senate

- **Undergraduate Program Review Policy**

  The Academic Senate Committee on Educational Policy is responsible for carrying out undergraduate program reviews.

  Academic Senate

- **Undergraduate Program Review Procedures**

  The Academic Senate Committee on Educational Policy, along with the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, has established comprehensive procedures for undergraduate program reviews, including self study requirements and external review team composition and guidelines.

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- **Guidelines for Approval of Proposed Changes in Undergraduate Programs and Establishment of New Undergraduate Programs**

  The Academic Senate has approved the guidelines for approval of proposed changes in undergraduate programs and establishment of new undergraduate programs.

  Academic Senate

- **General University Requirements and College Breadth (General Education) Requirements**

  The general University requirements and the breadth (general education) requirements for undergraduates in each of the colleges are set forth on pages 46 to 48 of the UCR General Catalog for 2007-08.
Academic Senate

- **UCR Self-Study for Reaffirmation of Accreditation, January 5, 1998**

This document, entitled “Undergraduate Education in the Context of the Research University,” represents a key element of a community experiment. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) sponsored a series of workshops held during the 1995-96 academic year to develop a new process for reaffirming the regional institutional accreditation of major research universities that would meet the need for public accountability while being more relevant, useful, and economical for the campuses. This is UCR’s contribution to the process.

- **Campus Academic Senate**

  The Academic Senate exercises direct control over the authorization and supervision of all courses and curricula, determination of admission and graduation requirements, and approval of all manuscripts published by the University of California Press. This is the website of the Riverside Division (campus branch) of the Academic Senate.

- **Academic Senate Advisory Committee**

  The campus Academic Senate Advisory Committee is composed of the chairs of most of the campus Academic Senate committees and meets regularly with the Chancellor, Executive Vice Chancellor/Provost, and other key administrative officials to provide advice and exchange views.

- **Annual Reports of the Academic Senate Standing Committees**

  The standing committees of the campus Academic Senate file annual reports at the May meeting of the Academic Senate. Agendas containing these reports are available by year at the website.

- **Office of Student Life**

  The purpose of Student Life is to foster the development of students beyond the classroom, build community on campus, encourage involvement in student life, meet the daily needs of students through the provision of services and facilities, advocate the needs of students to campus leaders, foster student pride and affiliation with UCR, and assist the university in its efforts to recruit and retain students.

- **Diversity Summits**

  The Diversity website lists past campus-wide summits under “Accomplishments” and upcoming summits and conferences under “Summits and Conferences.”
2. Planning processes at the institution define and, to the extent possible, align academic, personnel, fiscal, physical, and technological needs with the strategic objectives and priorities of the institution.

- **Academic Senate Committee on Physical Resources Planning**
  
  The committee provides advice to the Chancellor and the campus Academic Senate on matters concerning the use of campus lands and buildings, the design and placement of new buildings, and policies guiding University relations with industry and other enterprises. It considers, provides advice, and reports on the use of physical resources and University-industry relations which may be referred to it by the Academic Council, University-wide committees, the Chancellor, the vice chancellors, the campus Academic Senate, or any other committee of the campus Academic Senate.

- **Academic Senate Committee on Planning and Budget**
  
  The committee provides advice to the Chancellor and represents the campus Academic Senate on matters concerning the distribution of resources on campus. It is the duty of the committee to consider, provide advice and report on such matters of academic planning and resource allocations which may be referred to it by the University-wide Committee on Planning and Budget, the Academic Council, the Chancellor, the vice chancellors, the deans, the campus Academic Senate, or by any committee of the campus Academic Senate.

- **Capital and Physical Planning**
  
  The Office of Capital and Physical Planning is responsible for the development of the campus Capital Improvement Program, physical planning for the campus, and campus-wide space management and inventory.

- **Campus Master Plans**
  
  The UCR Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) and other campus master plans are available on this website.

- **Associated Students of UCR (ASUCR)**
  
  This page lists the committees of the ASUCR, including the Registration Fee Advisory Committee, which reports to the Office of Academic Planning and Budget, advising the Chancellor regarding distribution of student registration fees.

- **Graduate Student Association of UCR (GSA)**
  
  This page lists the Academic Affairs Officers and other officers of UCR’s GSA.
3. Planning processes are informed by appropriately defined and analyzed quantitative data, and include consideration of evidence of educational effectiveness, including student learning.
   - **Annual Budget Hearings**
     The planning and budget process for fiscal year 2006-07 is described on this website.
     Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning and Budget
   - **Student Success Task Force Report**
     The final report of the Student Success Task Force.
     Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor/Provost
   - **Undergraduate Retention and Graduation Statistics**
     The basic retention and graduation statistics for the campus are presented at this web link.
     Academic Planning and Budget
   - **UCR Faculty Instructional Evaluations**
     The UCR Faculty Instructional Evaluations Program is administered by the Office of Instructional Innovation Programs.
     Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

4. The institution employs a deliberate set of quality assurance processes at each level of institutional functioning, including new curriculum and program approval processes, periodic program review, ongoing evaluation, and data collection. These processes involve assessments of effectiveness, track results over time, and use the results of these assessments to revise and improve structures and processes, curricula, and pedagogy.
   - **University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES)**
     The University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES) solicits student opinions on most aspects of students’ academic and co-curricular experience. It documents student attitudes, self-perceptions, and goals.
     UCOP
   - **Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP)**
     This is basic information on the Cooperative Institutional Research Program, in which UCR participates.
     UCLA
   - **Office of Institutional Planning**
     The Office of Institutional Planning supports the enrollment and academic planning activities of the campus. It is responsible for the official campus enrollment, degrees conferred and student/faculty workload statistics as
well as all external reporting. In addition, it maintains and manages the Course Information Reporting System.

**Academic Planning and Budget**

- **Collegiate Learning Assessment Report**

  The results of UCR’s participation in the national Collegiate Learning Assessment project are contained in the report.

**Office of Undergraduate Education**

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  Document sets for the procedures for graduate program reviews.

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Academic Senate

- Evaluation of CHASS Connect Program

The CHASS Connect Program was the first attempt to establish a freshman group that would take the same breadth requirement (general education) courses during their freshmen year. The report summarizes the analysis of the success of the effort.

CHASS

- Evaluation of HASS 01 Course

This is an evaluation of the HASS 01 course. It is a course for students on probation that focuses on university transition, study skills, time management, and other skills necessary to be successful and improve their grad point.

CHASS

5. Institutional research addresses strategic data needs, is disseminated in a timely manner, and is incorporated in institutional review and decision-making processes. Included among the priorities of the institutional research function is the identification of indicators and collection of appropriate data to support the assessment of student learning consistent with the institution's purposes and educational objectives. Periodic reviews of institutional research and data collection are conducted to develop more effective indicators of performance and to assure the suitability and usefulness of data. Guideline: The institution exhibits existence of clear institutional research capacities with appropriate reporting lines and support appropriate to the institution's size and scope. Institutional research or equivalent databases are developed that are sufficient to meet all external reporting needs (e.g., IPEDS), and there are appropriate ways to access or disseminate this information through publications, reports, and widely-accessible databases.

- Office of Institutional Planning

The Office of Institutional Planning supports the enrollment and academic planning activities of the campus. It is responsible for the official campus enrollment, degrees conferred and student/faculty workload statistics as well as all external reporting. In addition, it maintains and manages the Course Information Reporting System.

Academic Planning and Budget
- **Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Survey Data**

  IPEDS is the core postsecondary education data collection program for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). IPEDS comprises nine surveys, covering student, personnel and financial data, collected during three separate periods. Analysts in IR&C's Data Warehouse and Corporate Systems unit coordinate all responses for the ten campuses and the Office of the President. Copies of recent submissions are provided.

- **Undergraduate Retention and Graduation Statistics**

  The basic retention and graduation statistics for the campus are presented at this web link.

**Academic Planning and Budget**

6. Leadership at all levels is committed to improvement based on the results of the process of inquiry, evaluation and assessment used throughout the institution. The faculty take responsibility for evaluating the effectiveness of the teaching and learning process and use the results for improvement. Assessments of the campus environment in support of academic and co-curricular objectives are also undertaken and used, and are incorporated into institutional planning. *Guideline:* The institution has clear, well-established policies and practices for gathering and analyzing information that leads to a culture of evidence and improvement.

- **CHASS Connect Program**

  The CHASS Connect Program is part of the CHASS F1RST: First-Year-Experience Program in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. It involves enrolling in a year-long course sequence and receiving significant interaction with program faculty and teaching assistants, focused and personalized advising, and peer mentorship.

- **Evaluation of CHASS Connect Program**

  The CHASS Connect Program was the first attempt to establish a freshman group that would take the same breadth requirement (general education) courses during their freshmen year. The report summarizes the analysis of the success of the effort.

- **Evaluation of HASS 01 Course**

  This is an evaluation of the HASS 01 course. It is a course for students on probation that focuses on university transition, study skills, time management, and other skills necessary to be successful and improve their grad point.

- **CHASS F1RST: First-Year-Experience Program**
The CHASS FIRST: First-Year-Experience Program includes CHASS Connect, Gateway Lecture, and Freshman Learning Communities.

CHASS

- **First Year Learning Communities**

  First Year Learning Communities are friendly, supportive, and challenging smaller communities of freshmen within the larger university, shaped by common enrollment in two or three core courses grouped by theme, undergraduate major, or discipline.

  Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

- **Housing Special Interest Communities**

  The campus Housing Program offers a variety of special interest groupings of residents, including CHASS Connect, Enginuity (engineering students), and Honors.

  Housing

- **UCR Faculty Instructional Evaluations**

  The UCR Faculty Instructional Evaluations Program is administered by the Office of Instructional Innovation Programs.

  Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

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  - **Undergraduate Program Review Procedures**

    The Academic Senate Committee on Educational Policy, along with the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, has established a comprehensive guideline for program review subcommittee members, programs involved in review, as well as their corresponding dean’s office, the external review team, and the Administration.

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Academic Senate

7. The institution, with significant faculty involvement, engages in ongoing inquiry into the processes of teaching and learning, as well as into the conditions and practices that promote the kinds and levels of learning intended by the institution. The outcomes of such inquiries are applied to the design of curricula, the design, and practice of pedagogy, and to the improvement of evaluation means and methodology.

  - **UCR Faculty Instructional Evaluations**

    The UCR Faculty Instructional Evaluations Program is administered by the Office of Instructional Innovation Programs.

Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
  - **iTeach Instructional Resources**

    The iTeach website provides access to instructional tools, techniques, and services for UCR Faculty.

Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
  - **Undergraduate Research at UCR**

    The Undergraduate Research at UCR web link informs undergraduate students about research and the many opportunities to participate in undergraduate research.

Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
  - **Scholarship of Teaching Speaker Series**
The Scholarship of Teaching Speaker Series includes seminars, panel discussions and workshops. The schedule is posted on the website, and videos of many past sessions are available.
Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

- Instructional Innovation and Excellence Grants

The Website describes the Instructional Innovation and Excellence Grants program.
Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

- Tenure Review Process

The tenure review, which generally occurs in the sixth or seventh year, leads to the Chancellor’s final decision on whether or not to grant tenure.
UCOP

- Academy of Distinguished Teachers

The Academy of Distinguished Teachers was established in 2005-06. Every member of the Academy has been a recipient of the UCR Academic Senate Distinguished Teaching Award or has exhibited an equivalent achievement in teaching. There are currently 10 members of the Academy, serving five-year terms.
Executive Vice Chancellor/Provost

- Campus Academic Senate

The Academic Senate exercises direct control over the authorization and supervision of all courses and curricula, determination of admission and graduation requirements, and approval of all manuscripts published by the University of California Press. This is the website of the Riverside Division (campus branch) of the Academic Senate.
Academic Senate

- UC Riverside Instructional Technology Review 2006

This is the Report of the team of experts who reviewed UCR’s instructional technology efforts in October 2006.
Computing and Communications

8. Appropriate stakeholders, including alumni, employers, practitioners, and others defined by the institution, are involved in the assessment of the effectiveness of educational programs.

- Alumni and Constituent Relations

The Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations coordinates the activities of UCR alumni.
Alumni and Constituent Relations

- Career Center
The Career Center offers a wide range of programs and services and exists to help students and alumni of the University of California determine and fulfill their career goals.

Career Center

- Office of Institutional Planning

The Office of Institutional Planning supports the enrollment and academic planning activities of the campus. It is responsible for the official campus enrollment, degrees conferred and student/faculty workload statistics as well as all external reporting. In addition, it maintains and manages the Course Information Reporting System.

Academic Planning and Budget

- Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET)

Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET) is the recognized U.S. accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology. It accredits UCR’s computing and engineering programs.

Bourns College of Engineering

- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education of the Association of American Medical Colleges accredits UCR’s Biomedical Sciences Program as part of its accreditation of the David Geffen UCLA School of Medicine.

Biomedical Sciences Program

- Commission on Teacher Credentialing

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing accredits UCR’s teaching credential programs.

Graduate School of Education

- The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International

The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International accredits the A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management.

A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management