April 6, 2010

TO: California Community College Articulation Officers and Counselors
FROM: Margene Wight, Sr. Undergraduate Academic Advisor, UCSD Bioengineering

1) Reinstatement of “Impacted Status” for UCSD “BENG” and “BTEC” Majors.

Though UCSD’s Bioengineering and Bioengineering Biotechnology majors were (for a few months) classified as “open” majors, the “impacted status” for these two majors has been reinstated, effective fall 2010, for all incoming freshman and transfer students.

For fall 2010 admissions, the UCSD Office of Admissions and Relations with Schools will calculate an admissions target number and admit the appropriate number of incoming transfer students into each impacted major, based on the community college GPA. Additionally, transfer students should have completed courses equivalent to UCSD’s Math. 20ABC; Physics 2AB; and Chem. 6AB. Students who meet the UCSD admission criteria will be admitted into their chosen impacted major, starting with the student having the highest community college GPA, until the admission target number is reached. (At least a 3.2 GPA in the community college transfer courses, and a 3.4 GPA in math., physics, and computer science courses, are likely to be needed to gain admission.) These students will be notified directly by the Office of Admissions and Relations with Schools whether they have been admitted into their chosen impacted major.

Transfer students who applied but were not admitted directly from community college into the “impacted” “BENG” or “BTEC” majors will be admitted into the major indicated as their “second choice” on the UC application (providing it is an “open” major).

2) Discontinuation and Phase-out of UCSD “Pre-PMED” Pre-major & “PMED” Major.

UCSD Bioengineering announces the discontinuation and phase-out of the “Pre-PMED” pre-major and “PMED” major. Effective fall 2010, the “Pre-PMED” pre-major & “PMED” major are no longer available to entering freshman and transfer students and continuing UCSD students.

All required courses will continue to be offered until students who entered the “PMED” major prior to or with the 2009 class have graduated.
In parallel, modifications will be made in the Bioengineering, Bioengineering: Biotechnology and Bioengineering: Bioinformatics tracks to enhance preparation of graduates who plan to pursue careers in the medical professions, as well as in traditional bioengineering careers.

These changes are being made in response to new directions in the biomedical engineering profession and to permit development of new educational initiatives that will better address the needs of graduates, and were not granted “official” approval prior to the application period for fall 2010.

We sincerely apologize to you, our colleagues, and especially to your students for any confusion or disappointment caused by these changes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at mwight@ucsd.edu if you have any questions.

cc:  Mae Brown, Assistant Vice Chancellor, UCSD Office of Admissions and Relations with Schools
     Yoly Woo-Hoogenstyn, Articulation Officer, UCSD Office of Admissions and Relations with Schools
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