

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Provost and Executive Vice President Brown  
Academic Senate Chair Gauvain  
Members of the Feasibility Study Steering Committee  
BOARS Chair Comeaux  
Academic Senate Vice Chair Horwitz  
Members of the Feasibility Study Work Group

FROM: Alexis Atsilvsgi Zaragoza, April Grommo, David Stern, Hans Johnson, Jay Rosner,  
John Hetts, Mayra A. Lara, Michal Kurlaender, Owen Long and Rebeca Rios

DATE: December 10, 2020

SUBJECT: FSWG Majority Position Against SB Selection Use

Dear Colleagues,

Yesterday, I sent this email to the entire Feasibility Study Work Group (FSWG) at the request of the co-chairs for input on a final version of the FSWG report:

By the deadline (that had been) established of noon last Thursday, **10 of us, a majority of the FSWG, who all were in opposition to a selection use of the SB**, had taken the time to generate, negotiate, unanimously approve and then submit detailed edits to a Draft of the original Report, in order that the Report accurately reflect our position. Some of those proposed edits are now in the updated version of the Report, and I appreciate that, but a few that are crucial to us are not, and have already been rejected by the drafters of the updated version. In my experience, it is common for a minority opinion not to be adequately expressed in a group report, which we saw with the Faculty Task Force Report; however, it is either highly unusual or unheard of for a majority opinion not to be adequately expressed in a group report. (bold and underlining added)

The clear opinion of a majority of 10 of us, which had been previously expressed to the drafters, is that our position on selection is NOT outside the scope of the FSWG. So, this minimal change, replacing the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence, 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph of page 1 of the revised Report with this sentence, would change 5 words and add 6 words, and would minimally address my concerns: “Though the co-chairs believe it is outside the scope of this workgroup, it is important to note that **a majority of 10 of our 18 members do not agree, and were opposed to using the SB for admissions selection.**”

This minimal edit, including the bold, is not only factually accurate, but would avoid a (further submission by us).

Within 2½ hours on a busy workday, each and every one of the 9 other FSWG members listed above separately emailed to the FSWG their individual agreement to the sentence revision above, demonstrating our commitment on this issue. And, this was the second time our group of 10 had made this request. For comparison, only 3 other FSWG members offered input. Yet again, the request by our majority was denied, so we’re filing this Majority Position Memo, in opposition to a FSWG Final Report that wrongly favors the opinion of FSWG’s minority instead of our **majority position against SB selection use.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Rosner, on behalf of myself and Alexis Atsilvsgi Zaragoza, April Grommo, David Stern, Hans Johnson, John Hetts, Mayra A. Lara, Michal Kurlaender, Owen Long and Rebeca Rios