

V. **SPECIAL ORDERS (Continued)**
Consent Calendar (Continued)

B. Davis, M.A.S. in Maternal and Child Nutrition----Approval of New Degree (Action)

In accordance with Academic Senate Bylaw 116.C² the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) has submitted for the Assembly's approval, a request from UC Davis for a new degree, M.A.S. in Maternal and Child Nutrition.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS
Chair Kent Erickson

April 15, 2004

LAWRENCE PITTS
CHAIR, ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Re: UCD, M.A.S. in Maternal and Child Nutrition

Dear Larry:

At its April 13, 2004 meeting, CCGA approved the proposal from UC Davis to establish a program leading to a M.A.S. in Maternal and Child Nutrition. The program has a strong faculty, the curriculum seems sound, demand for the program appears adequate, and the program will fill a unique and important niche. CCGA feels that this proposal clearly meets the standards of UC. For your information and records, I am enclosing the report of CCGA's lead reviewer for this proposal, his correspondence with the faculty of the program, and the comments from outside reviewers.

As you know, CCGA's approval is the last stop of the Academic Senate side of the systemwide review and approval process except when the new degree title must be approved by the President, under delegated authority from the Board of Regents. According to the Academic Senate Bylaws, the Assembly of the Academic Senate (or the Academic Council if the Assembly is not meeting within 60 days of CCGA's approval) must approve new degree titles. This program has CCGA's approval and we commend it to you.

Sincerely,

Kent Erickson
Chair, CCGA

cc: CCGA members
Suzanne Klausner, Principal Analyst, Program Review
Kathryn Dewey, Professor, Department of Nutrition

Enclosures

² Academic Senate Bylaw 116.C {Authority of the Assembly - Part II C. The Assembly shall consider for approval proposals for the establishment of new graduate degrees received from the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs and requiring approval by the President, to whom The Regents have delegated authority of approval. Proposals approved by the Assembly shall be submitted to the President. [See [SOR 110.1](#) and [Bylaw 180.B.5](#)] (Am 24 May 00)

**UC Davis Proposal
Master of Advanced Study (M.A.S.)
in Maternal and Child Nutrition**

Grayson Marshall, Lead Reviewer.

Faculty of the UC Davis Dept of Nutrition and the Graduate Group in Nutrition have proposed a new part-time, self supporting, MAS degree program in Maternal and Child Nutrition targeted at working professionals. The group has developed the program in collaboration with UCD Extension. The Dean of UCDE supports the program plan and indicated that UCDE will have responsibility for student registration, budgeting, class schedules and marketing. The program has received approval and support from campus officials and the UCD Graduate Council.

From the UCOP disciplinary background summary: Healthy People 2010 listed 28 focus areas, Maternal, Infant, and Child Health being number 16 on the list and stated, “The health of mothers, infants, and children is of critical importance, both as a reflection of the current health status of a large segment of the U.S. population and as a predictor of the health of the next generation. “ In 2000, The Maternal and Child Health Bureau, also in the U.S. DHHS, conducted a nationwide assessment of graduate education needs among maternal and child health professionals. They identified nutrition as one of the top five unmet critical needs in clinical graduate education. One of the Bureau’s recommendation is that there be “alternative graduate education models, ideally with regional access for professionals in all states.”

This UCD program will be the first at either UC or CSU to provide graduate training focusing on this aspect of nutrition. Existing master’s programs in public health focus on health. The UCD program has been designed for professionals who aspire to become specialists in maternal or pediatric nutrition and others who pursue certification as lactation educators or lactation consultants. A strong group of eight faculty members has agreed to teach and assist with classes for the program. An advisory committee to oversee the program will be chaired by Dr. Kathryn Dewey; the composition of this committee has been clarified by Dr. Dewey. It will include a majority of Academic Senate members, and will also act as the admissions committee for the program. In addition to the listed faculty, other instructors may be recruited to teach and give guest lectures. Faculty members in the program will be compensated for the extra teaching required by this program at the rate of \$200/lecture hour. Other administrative and mentoring tasks will not be compensated, but the proposal suggests these will not present an excessive burden.

Admissions requirements for M.A.S. applicants will be equivalent to those for traditional graduate students in the Graduate Group in Nutrition. These requirements include: a baccalaureate degree with prior course work in chemistry, organic chemistry, statistics, physiology, and biochemistry of nutrition.

The program has been developed to contain 36 units consisting of 3 x 6 unit core classes with course directors identified for each (Nutrition during Pregnancy, Lactation and Infant Nutrition, Child and Adolescent Nutrition), 6-8 units of special topics, 4-6 units of electives and a six unit student project (capstone) that will be carried out in consultation with a 3 member guidance committee, all of whom must approve the final written project report.

The core courses will be delivered in two 2 ½ hour periods per week for 10 weeks with additional one hour on-line discussion. The program envisions a possible eventual shift to total on-line program at some point in the future.

Demand and Employment Prospects: Documents suggest approximately 12 students/year will be needed to make the program self-supporting. Initial support will be made for the first three years by UCD Extension. The program should be complementary to and will draw on a separate population than current graduate programs.

Careers in community nutrition include positions in public health, outpatient care, wellness and health promotion, sports nutrition, nursing homes/intermediate care facilities, and mental health/mental retardation facilities. Other employment opportunities include corporate wellness, food industry marketing and sales, writing/advertising positions within the newspaper, magazine, radio/television industry, and private practice in pediatrics and obstetrics.

Despite state budget difficulties, the federally funded Women, Infants and Children's program is expected to grow from its current level of service to approximately 45% of US infants, and will continue to be a major employer of nutritional professionals. This and related programs require an advanced degree for administrative positions. In addition, hospitals, physician's groups and HMOs are seeking qualified lactation consultants with advanced training. Thus demand for MAS graduates should be strong and growing.

The UCD program conducted a mail survey of random samples of professionals (California Nurses Assoc, California Dietetics Assoc) and a complete sample of California residents who were members of the International Lactation Consultant Association. 206 (21%) responses were received and 64% indicated strong or some interest in the program. Most of those not interested appeared to already have a master-level credential or were nearing retirement. The majority of those interested were registered bachelor-level dietitians looking for intellectual growth, the possibility of career change or salary increases. 88% preferred a part-time program with evening classes, and most lived within 50 miles of Davis, although interest was apparent state-wide.

The program will be reviewed after 3 years. In the main body it is suggested that this will be done by Graduate Council and then review will occur at regular 7-year intervals. In a response to questions by CAPBR, it is suggested that the program will be reviewed after 3-years by UCDE and the Nutrition Graduate group, with additional reviews occurring at annual intervals to evaluate financial viability.

The program has answered all questions and adequately addressed points raised by CCGA and both the external and internal reviewers. The program has a strong faculty, the curriculum seems sound, demand for the program appears adequate, and the program will fill a unique and important niche. I recommend approval.