

## COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

**Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

**I. Chair's Report***Chair Andrea Kasko*

The Chair reported that the CoGD met on February 16 and discussed the English language requirement for graduate admissions, which refers to English language requirements for undergraduate admissions. There is a lot of momentum to work on it and some of the graduate deans would like it abolished. This issue will probably come to CCGA. At the budget call this month, there was a long discussion about recent activity in Sacramento. The legislature wants the UC to increase enrollment considerably this year, which is not realistic. There is some indication that they may consider funding over-enrollments. As the budget gets finalized, there is a push for long-term funding of deferred maintenance. The expected cost is in the billions, and the state has funded \$100M. This is major issue on all of the campuses. There is a lawsuit related to UCB where the adjacent neighborhood has sued so that the campus cannot increase its enrollment beyond 2021-22 levels. This could happen on other campuses as well if it is successful.

The state has indicated that it will make a significant investment in research of \$185M in one-time funds to support three climate initiatives, \$100M for climate action research seed and matching grants, \$50M for climate innovation incubators, and \$35M to establish climate workforce development and training hubs. The size and number of the grants will need to be determined. The budget compact details five percent annual budget increases over the next five fiscal years to help URM's. It comes with the expectation that the UC will work toward goals such as improving graduation rates and making college more affordable. It also is linked to cohort-based tuition. The final budget will be released in May.

At Council, it was announced that UCOP is returning to in-person work; there is a small possibility that CCGA will be able to meet in Oakland this year. Intellectual property activity is devolving to the campuses; this includes a patent tracking systems. UCOP will provide backup on licensing and legal matters. Regent Estolano's term as Chair of the Board of Regents was scheduled to end on March 1. The Vice chair was supposed to take over, but there has been some discussion of having Regent Estolano's term go longer because it was shorter than normal. Regent Estolano had a strong understanding of graduate education and the UC system overall. President Drake responded to the Council's letter about Presidential Proclamation 10043. He would like to facilitate further discussion with appropriate state officials. Tax receipts are higher than expected this year and UC may request more money for deferred maintenance and seismic retrofitting. UCRP will be offering both online and in-person counseling for retirement counseling systemwide. Transfer issues are becoming overwhelming for the regular senate committees and there is a proposal to create a transfer-specific task force; Council is in favor of this idea. The Regents' Committee on Health Services continues to work on the agreements with religious institutions; these agreements will be severed if they do not agree to UC principles. On a related note, there was a long discussion of health care worker burnout. There is a doctor shortage and over 33 percent of doctors in the system are over the age of 60 and will be retiring soon. President Drake addressed the Council about the disabled student request regarding recording of lectures and the GSRs unionization process. Provost

Brown brought up the issue of cheating through companies like Chegg and Course Hero; there will be a closed session of the Regents to discuss this. There was a continued discussion of online education and fully online undergraduate degrees. This is a controversial topic and is not likely to be resolved soon. There was a sit-in at UCLA that lasted over two weeks from the disabled students union and others who wanted the University to mandate recording of all classes; it was framed as an issue of accessibility UCAF responded in a letter saying that it would not support such a broad mandate while recognizing the importance of individual accommodations; it is an issue of academic freedom and the maintenance of classroom integrity. UCAF also wrote a brief letter about the extension of fertility benefits to faculty.

The committee had some questions and there was discussion.

## **II. Vice Chair's Report**

*Vice Chair Erith Jaffe-Berg*

The Vice Chair reported on activities at UCACC. There was a Presidential group on artificial intelligence and it issued a report. A follow up working group will be formed to explore questions of bias in AI, and the Vice Chair requested that graduate students be included. UCACC also hosted a representative from IRAP who explained how UC stores data and the types of data that are being stored. Members asked if the data is anonymized, and it is not. However, some of it is encrypted. There is a lot of concern about this because of the University's data breach; UCACC will continue to explore and discuss this issue. The committee also had a consultation with UCOP information technology services. They are looking through overdue policies and retiring some that are out of date. This consultation included discussion about UC and DOD-funded research, which has totaled \$2.3B over the past five years. The IT policy director was pleased with the terms of negotiations which led to more flexibility in terms of UC research.

The CoGD met with Provost Brown on February 7 and discussed the upcoming transition as he leaves his office. The Provost affirmed that the President has the graduate deans' interests in mind and that they should let him know that they are interested in the selection of his successor. He encouraged the graduate deans to keep the academic and graduate mission in sharp focus. The Provost said that the process of distributing resources to the campuses needs to be more equitable. Campuses with high URM/ first generation students need more funding; likewise campuses that are newer and growing need more resources than those that are grown and are being maintained.

In closing, the Vice Chair updated the committee about the MRU review for the Dickens Project, in which she is participating.

## **III. Announcements from Academic Affairs**

*Bart Aoki, Executive Director, Research and Grants Program Office*

*Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies*

*Todd Greenspan, Director of Academic Planning*

*Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst*

Executive Director Jennings announced that Graduate, Undergraduate and Equity Affairs (GUEA) will be hosting a webinar on gender recognition and lived names. The UC/HSI grant deadline has passed, and the new RFP will be announced in April. The UC/HBCU deadline is in a couple of weeks. Her office is going to revamp its graduate admissions website. The intent is to have it launched by summer, but it might not be ready until early fall. The new website

will be a driving force and a resource for students and is intended to be particularly accessible to underrepresented and first generation students.

Director Greenspan discussed enrollment planning and the 2022-23 budget. The legislature would like UC to shift about 900 students from non-resident to resident status. The University is trying to get the legislature to count the 5000 students UC overenrolled as contributing to the growth it is asking from the system. The Director's office just sent out a request to campuses for the 2030 capacity exercise; Regent Chair Estolano had asked for this. The president wants 20K growth by 2030, however this has not allocated that by campus as yet. The University is looking at traditional and non-traditional ways to grow, such as through summer session and study abroad. In closing, the Director mentioned the Berkeley CEQA lawsuit, which is currently being appealed. A curtailment on housing will severely impact freshmen, and Berkeley is trying to come up with mitigation strategies.

Analyst Procello told the committee that UCSD has been enquiring about the status of its Eighth Undergraduate proposal. The campus is eager to move forward. The Berkeley campus has a detailed timeline planned for the College of Computer Data Science and Society proposal. Mr. Procello told UCB that there was some uncertainty and unpredictability in the process but that CCGA and the administration will work as quickly as they can.

Executive Director Aoki said that Vice President Maldonado was unable to attend the meeting because she was called in to the Council of Chancellors. She asked Mr. Aoki to update the committee in her stead.

The COVCs have been in close coordination with APP on the unionization issues. The whole UC is working together on large research initiatives and proposals including a climate resilience proposal. The governor's budget has an allocation of \$185M to UC for climate resilience, research, and innovation efforts. There is a component of that allocation that focuses on workforce development and would provide new support for graduate students. The Regents' Innovation and Entrepreneurship workgroup recommendations have resulted in a series of efforts that involve an assessment of innovation and entrepreneurship activities to ensure that they are up to date and that roadblocks and bottlenecks are removed. The search for a new director for the observatories is nearing its close. There are continued discussions with the VCRs about multi-campus research entities and making sure that they are benefitting the system as a whole. The MRPI (Multi-Campus Research Programs Initiative) is going to be releasing a call for proposals later this month; the involvement of graduate students is a key requirement for those proposals.

#### **IV. Council of Graduate Deans' Report**

*Dean Jean-Pierre Delplanque*

The CoGD spent quite a bit of time on labor issues. There is an ongoing discussion about administrative workload and there is quite a bit of distance between the graduate deans' way of addressing it and how the President addresses it. For some campuses it has a much more disproportionate impact. It is an unfunded mandate, and that is an issue. Entering foreign graduate students are required to pass the regular examination in English required of entering foreign undergraduate students. The deans started discussing this requirement and they found the language to be concerning. As it turns out, none of the campuses use this language. The graduate deans are considering asking the Academic Senate to cut the tie between SR 520 and 454 or maybe cutting out 520 altogether. He asked if CCGA had insights or concerns regarding

this. The Chair asked that members ascertain their campuses' feelings on this issue and report back at the April meeting.

## **V. Campus Reports**

UCB - There have been a lot of staff departures due to COVID and overload, and there is concern about the impact on admissions and advising.

UCD – The campus is discussing its policy to help grad students who have issues getting their work published. Sometimes students have publishable work and the faculty stand in the way of getting it out the door.

UCI – It was discovered that the requirement that candidacy committees need five members is not a UC policy, but an Irvine policy.

UCLA – The campus had nothing to report.

UCM – Merced is one of two campuses that transferred to Oracle and two years later the system is still non-functional; it is devastating to research operations. Faculty do not know the balances on their accounts. Staffing is also a real problem. Research has been brought to an abrupt halt.

UCR – The GSRs but are reappearing with a lot of energy and they say they are going to work on a graduate student bill of rights. The campus is going through a second round of feedback on proposal on the financial planning analysis and management of SSGPDPs.

UCSD – San Diego is also using Oracle and it is an unmitigated disaster. The campus is changing the funding model for block grants. This is an ongoing issue, and there is strong resistance.

UCSF – The campus is still working on its program membership bylaw. This is related to SVSH policies.

UCSB – There is a series of mentoring guidelines for graduate studies that were passed last year by the graduate council. Language is going to be added to the APM to include mentoring as a criteria for merit and promotion.

UCSC - The campus had nothing to report.

## **VI. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership**

*Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Chair*

The Council Chair explained that the Vice Chair was en route to Global Climate Leadership Council meeting and would not be present for the update.

The Chair reported that he and the Vice Chair attended two Regents' committee meetings: Health Services and the Special Committee on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. EVP of UC Health Carrie Byington gave a COVID update; she continues to be quite wary of the virus. Dr. Byington said that some contracts between the UC and its affiliated religious hospitals had been signed and others are underway. Regent Pérez is scrutinizing the contract language, and the Senate is continuing to monitor the issue. Vice President Theresa Maldonado addressed the Committee on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. She announced an agreement with the chancellors that stipulated that much of the work in this domain will devolve to the campuses, including each campus choosing its own patent tracking system. OP will maintain a data warehouse on campus patents and best practices, and will provide backup for licensing other legal matters. The term of Regent Chair Estolano expired yesterday; Regent Leib will take over on an interim basis.

Tax receipts are higher but revenues may be in the balance because of the Ukraine situation and domestic inflation. The University asked the state for \$1.6B in one-time funds for deferred

maintenance and retrofitting. Berkeley neighborhoods have filed a court case and the court has determined that enrollment growth on any campus as a “project” under CEQA. This triggers additional environmental impact review. The campus has been ordered to freeze enrollment at fall 2020 levels. Because fall 2020 was during COVID, enrollment was low; as a consequence, approximately 3400 undergraduate students risk not being offered acceptance to Berkeley. This may have cascading effects on the other campuses. The official estimate of the loss of money to Berkeley is \$57M, but it may be much more.

The Chair reported that Vice Chair Cochran put together some slides on online undergraduate degrees for February Council. None of the University’s comparators have gone forward with online undergraduate degrees; only ASU and Penn State have large programs, and the findings on them are not very good: they don't increase diversity, students don't tend to graduate from them, and they incur a lot of debt. The student/faculty ratios in those programs are quite a bit higher than UC’s. The Senate has been split on the topic of online degrees for years, and Council is trying to do its due diligence on them. UCEP is putting together a set of guidelines to assist the Council in its debates.

The topic of theft of faculty intellectual property through services such as Chegg and Course Hero got some traction when the Council Chair brought it up before the Regents. Regent Park has asked OP to present at the March Regents’ meeting about IT theft and dishonesty. Council leadership has been in conversations with the President and has asked that the Experian coverage be extended for another year; President Drake agreed. He also agreed (in principle) that coverage should be part of the regular benefits package. Council is hearing a lot of complaints about RASC and problems with the new Navitus prescription drug program. HR has put forward a budget to restore in-person counseling at the campuses.

The disabled students union at UCLA held a sit-in and called for mandatory recording of lectures and also mandatory hybrid modality. Council asked for UCAF to weigh in and they said that academic freedom does not trump the ADA but that ADA is exercised on an individual basis. The University will work to accommodate students on an individualized basis, but wholesale recording is a violation of academic freedom and also raises student privacy issues. COO Rachel Nava came to Council recently to talk about staffing at the campuses; staff who work with faculty and students are not coming back to work. The broader issue is the fraying of relations between faculty, students, and staff. The University needs to reconstitute the social contract, and this responsibility lies with President Drake.

Chair Horwitz has been working with Mary Croughan, EVC at Davis, about mitigating the effect of COVID on faculty careers. They are close to issuing a final report, the key concept of which is Achievements Relative to Opportunity (ARO). It would be a rebalancing of teaching, research, and service to reflect the exigencies of COVID; faculty careers have been really affected by the inability to conduct research due to caregiving responsibilities and similar issues. The chairs of the Senate/administration workgroup on Master’s degree proposal review met. Chair Horwitz said that Chair Kasko made the Senate’s case very effectively and the full workgroup will be meeting soon. Separately, the Senate has put forward a climate memorial to reduce campus emissions by 2030. There was not sufficient time to vote on it at the last Assembly meeting and Chair Horwitz hopes to have it approved at the April Assembly meeting whereupon it will move to a vote on the campuses before going to the Regents. Finally, the state legislature has charged the Intersegmental Council of Academic Senate (ICAS) to create a single general education transfer pathway through AB 928. ICAS has been given a very tight window. If the UC, CSU, and CC senates fail to meet the deadline, the task will be passed to the segment administrators, which is not desirable. Heretofore, transfer has not had a home in

any Senate committee; Council has proposed a new committee on transfer that would have subject-area expertise. A charge is currently being drafted.

## VII. New Program Proposals

### A. Proposal for an Eighth Undergraduate College on the San Diego Campus

*Lead Reviewer Lissa Caldwell*

The Lead Reviewer noted that it has been very hard to get reviewers. The new college is intended to relieve the strain on UCSD's other colleges, and is organized around the theme of community and engagement. The Lead Reviewer discussed the proposal. She said that feedback from UCPB and UCEP was generally supportive. Questions and concerns were fairly consistent and many were highlighted by UCEP. The Lead Reviewer shared her own concerns and discussed the proposal with the committee. The Chair suggested that the committee move forward with one external reviewer due to the difficulty getting reviewers and because the proposal was largely based on the Seventh College proposal which was approved in 2019.

### B. Proposal for an MS in Precision Medicine on the San Diego Campus

**Action Taken: James Bisley was assigned as Lead Reviewer**

### C. Discussion – UCSF DNP Proposal (pending receipt)

The Chair explained that she had been exchanging emails with UCSF regarding a proposed transition of the Master's degree program in the School of Nursing into an alternate pathway to the DNP. She asked UCSF representative Bjoern Schwer to give the committee an overview of UCSF's plans. Representative Schwer showed some slides outlining the proposed program which looks to have a four-year degree that would be state-supported and a two-year degree that would be self-supported. The campus is reluctant to put forward a full proposal.

The Chair asked the committee what it would like in terms of a submission from the campus. If it asks for a full proposal, CCGA would want to examine the curriculum. However, because it comes from two already-approved programs the committee can perhaps make some accommodations, such as having no external reviewers. She remarked that it would likely be challenging to have a single degree with two separate financial models leading to it. She is not aware of a single degree that can be either self-supporting or state-supported depending on the credentials on entry. The committee discussed options, and the Chair noted that CCGA would work with UCSF to facilitate a quick review; there is a need for health professionals. She said she would share the committee's concerns with UCSF, but underscore that CCGA is intent on maintaining the standards set by other UC degree programs. In addition, the proposers need to provide a solid financial analysis and justification.

## VIII. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances

### A. Proposal for a Simple Name Change from Chemistry to Chemical Biology

**Action Taken: The proposal was approved 11-0-1.**

## IX. Letter: COVID's Impact on Graduate Students

The committee discussed the letter and various issues that it raised. There was an agreement that the letter should pose some possible solutions to the residual impact of COVID on the

graduate student population. The Chair said she would work on the letter, and bring it back in April for review.

#### **X. Campus Reports: SSGPDP Best Practices**

UCB – The graduate division requires a pre-proposal and works with them on it in great detail. Proposers are expected to get local buy-in.

UCD - <https://financeandbusiness.ucdavis.edu/bia/budget/resources/fee-approvals/ssgdpd>

UCI – SSGPDPs undergo a detailed review by graduate division and then they are reviewed every three years. Eventually, they are rolled in to the regular campus reviews.

UCLA – The campus passed extensive guidelines in 2019 for requirements for SSGPDPs. It assembled an ad hoc advisory committee, the members of which are compensated, to work on the proposals. <https://ucla.app.box.com/s/uhvk8qw5lsayhykw2omuxo3bn7i36jc9>

UCM – The campus does not have any SSGPDPs.

UCR – There is a policy being reviewed currently on the financial management of SSGPDPs.

<https://fboapps.ucr.edu/policies/index.php?path=viewPolicies.php&policy=300-66B>

UCSD – The campus does not have a formal policy; SSGPDPs are reviewed in the same way as regular programs.

UCSF – The member is going to look into campus practices and will update the group.

UCSB – The campus does not have any SSGPDPs.

UCSC – The campus does not have any SSGPDPs.

#### **XI. New Business**

There was no new business.

The committee adjourned at 2:18 p.m.