

## COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

**Minutes of Meeting**  
Wednesday, July 6, 2022

**I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes**

**Action Taken:** *The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 8-0-0.*

**II. Chair's Report**

*Chair Andrea Kasko*

The Chair reported that the Climate Memorial passed, despite low turnout. It was then sent to the Regents. Council continued its discussion on departmental statements; the issue got the attention of the Regents. The Regents want to limit UC websites to UC information only. UCFW had an annual report and one of the more important issues it discussed was fertility treatment. They also talked about mitigating the impact of Covid.

All faculty are scheduled to get a four percent raise this year, but it is not scheduled to come out until October which effectively makes it three percent because of the way faculty are paid. Assembly is preoccupied with the fully online undergraduate degrees and whether there should be a residency requirement. UCPB reported on rebenching. Council leadership and the CCGA Chair had a follow-up meeting with Provost Brown to discuss the issue of Master's program proposal review. There is still a push from the Provost to have some reconsideration about how proposals are reviewed. He wants the campuses to invest more in the process. However, he does not fully appreciate the pressures divisional faculty senate members are put under with proposal review. The search for a new provost is moving swiftly; Provost Brown is staying in the position until the search is concluded. The patent tracking system has been delegated to the campuses. Finally, the Assembly talked about affiliations with religious hospitals. The issue at hand is assuring that all health care services (including reproductive and gender-affirming care) are available.

Academic Senate Leadership met with the Regents and UC Legal about Chegg and Course Hero; there is a possibility that the pension fund is invested in Chegg.

**III. Vice Chair's Report**

*Vice Chair Erith Jaffe-Berg*

The Vice Chair reported that the main issue discussed at CoGD dealt with ways to make the identity of faculty members - against whom sexual harassment accusations had been levied - known to prospective students. Discussions around this issue were started in 2020, but then were derailed because of Covid. Dean Delplanque re-introduced the topic to the group, and CoGD will be discussing it in the months ahead. The group revisited the labor union issue. Unionization discussions have made it necessary for the graduate deans to determine which students are not eligible for unionization. The graduate deans are overwhelmed with the workload; this is not a sustainable model. The graduate deans do not have the staffing support that they had in the past, and this is a considerable amount of work. Finally, the Vice Chair announced that Lisa García Bedolla from UCB will be hosting next year's graduate division meetings.

#### **IV. Announcements from Academic Affairs**

*Theresa Maldonado, Vice President of Research and Innovation*

*Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies*

*Todd Greenspan, Director of Academic Planning*

*Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst*

Vice President Maldonado reported that the climate funding anticipated by the University was not as generous as originally anticipated. That said, it appears that R&I will have \$80-100M to assign to grants. Her office is in the final steps of assigning criteria for grants and developing ways for students to apply. She said that she remains deeply involved with the Regents on innovation transfer issues; her office is working to get realignment in expectations. The Vice President reported that her office has made progress in academic personnel and was able to get through a complete review of Recommendation Eight from the Regents to change the promotion and tenure criteria to include innovation. The Council Chair and Vice Chair conducted a system-wide review and concluded that the criteria did not need to be amended. They are already included in the APM; it is a matter of highlighting those contributions by faculty. The Provost issued a letter in early April supporting that decision and encouraging the chancellors to support innovation activities on the campuses. She remarked that her office is nearing the completion of Recommendation Nine, which pertains to leaves of absence for faculty and other researchers to support their efforts in startup companies. Her group is spending a lot of time on technology discussions, specifically on replacing the patent tracking system and patent portfolio and royalty streams, and possibly transferring many of these responsibilities to the campuses. This is going to cost tens of millions of dollars. Finally, she told the committee that UC leadership has pulled together to respond to a Department of Energy request to develop a hydrogen economy for the State of California. Her office is working closely with the governor's office and is seeking \$1.2B from the Department of Energy for five years. That funding would be matched by the governor's office and other sponsors in industry as well as non-profit and environmental justice groups.

Committee members had questions for the Vice President.

Executive Director Jennings announced that her office completed the UCHBC reviews and was able to fund six proposals. She said that she did not have much news on the unionization activities. The University has its own economic proposal that it has put forward. The parties met on June 28, but the union has not passed anything new. The GSR front is the same as it was last month. Members had some questions about union issues.

Director Greenspan said that his office is working on the UC 2030 capacity plan. He took it to the EVCs last week and will be taking it to the chancellors this week. After that, it will go to the Regents. The plan anticipates growth of about 23,000 undergraduates and about 10,000 graduate students. His office is also putting together a more modest plan of 17,000 growth at the undergraduate level and 6000 at the graduate level. This is in alignment with what the state is currently funding. He said that the good news about the budget is that it is tied to the governor's compact which says that UC should grow at least 500 graduate students per year over the next five years. That is the first time that the state has acknowledged graduates to growth in recent years.

Mr. Procello mentioned the proposal for divisional status for undergraduate education at the Riverside campus. He observed that divisions are not a part of the approval process in the Compendium. If that document is revised, this issue might be an issue to incorporate. He raised the issue of the college proposal from UCB and the school proposal from UCI. He said he will

be sending them to the Academic Personnel and Budget Offices to get their feedback and then will coordinate with CCGA before sending them forward to the Provost and President.

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

*Dean Jean-Pierre Delplanque*

Dean Delplanque said that the CoGD spent part of its time studying about transparency in findings in Title IX cases. The intent is to make sure students are informed. This effort was started before Covid and is now being resumed. On a related note, the National Academies have put together an action collaborative to prevent sexual harassment in higher education. Six UC campuses are involved. The committee discussed the issues Mr. Delplanque raised and asked him questions.

## **VI. Campus Reports**

UCB – The campus had nothing to report.

UCD – The campus had nothing to report

UCI – The campus approved a new school proposal that will be coming to CCGA.

UCLA – The campus is engaged in an initiative on a principles for the future of instruction, which came out of some interactions with student protests. The campus is in the process of putting together work group about the future of instruction post-Covid.

UCM – The campus has a new dean of graduate studies who is a former faculty member and former graduate council chair.

UCR – The campus has had lengthy discussions of its fully online undergraduate MBA proposal.

UCSD – The future of online instruction and the union have been topics of concern. The campus has a new school coming forward to CCGA soon.

UCSF – The member was not present.

UCSB – The campus had nothing to report.

UCSC – A campus task force on graduate funding has been working to develop an updated plan to try to find room for innovation in ways graduate funds can be deployed and also innovative strategies for bringing in additional resources.

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

*Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Chair*

*Susan Cochran, Academic Council Vice Chair*

The Senate Chair told the committee that the Climate Memorial passed with almost 85 percent of faculty in favor. The Senate sent the results to President Drake, who sent it to the Regents.

The governor and the legislature finalized the budget. Chair Horwitz reminded the committee that the compact with the governor states that UC will receive a five percent increase in the operating budget for the next five years, provided that the University hits targets on expanded enrollment. In addition, the previously unfunded over-enrollments will be funded, as will future over-enrollments. The non-resident student swap will be funded; campuses that are over the 18 percent cap on non-resident students will be funded as they replace those students with California students. The disappointing news is that UC asked for \$1.6B and did not get it. However there was an increase in some of one-time moneys for deferred maintenance and similar projects. One hundred million dollars were funded for research systemwide. The state also provided funding for Berkeley's clean energy campus project, and for campus expansion

projects at Riverside. In addition, \$200M was provided in a match for the UCLA Institute for Immunology and Immunotherapy.

ICAS came to a consensus in forging a revised IGETC framework that would fulfill the first part of Assembly Bill 928. This will be sent out in the fall for review by the senates of the state's three higher education segments.

The Regents had two off-cycle committee meetings in June. One was the Health Services Committee, which featured a report from UCLA Health about its strategic plan. The Health Services Committee also heard a progress report from the Joint Clinical Advisory Committee. That committee's writ is to monitor the affiliations of UC Health with religious hospitals. Academic Council discussed the interim affiliations policy in June meeting. The argument that it is important for the University to enter into these affiliations to provide health care to underserved populations and to provide training sites for medical trainees is poised against the strong feeling that UC should not be engaging with hospitals with policy-based restrictions on care. This debate has become more fraught with the overturning of Roe vs. Wade by the Supreme Court. The other committee that met was Innovation, Transfer and Entrepreneurship. This group has been working to devolve patents and intellectual property from OP to the campuses. The Regents are very supportive of this move. Reworking the patent tracking system is a complicated, lengthy, and expensive endeavor. The Senate and campuses need to be engaged effort is undertaken and completed successfully.

Another much-debated Senate issue is the matter of academic departments posting political statements on their websites. Council endorsed the UCAF's memo that approved those statements but recommended that they include a disclaimer that they are not speaking on behalf of the University. This is not a settled matter; some Regents are displeased with it and they are deciding if they want to confine department websites to information only. The Senate leadership is working to finesse this issue and get it off of the Regents' agenda.

Senate leadership has been meeting with UC Legal about student tutoring websites such as Chegg and Course Hero. These groups steal faculty intellectual property and leverage it so that students can engage in academic dishonesty. The next move by UC is to put together a coalition of students and academic senates from that three segments of California higher education to lobby the legislature to amend the education code to expand already existing prohibitions against the sale of term papers.

UCPB has produced a very thoughtful comprehensive report on rebenching and budget set-asides; Academic Council will likely endorse it at the July meeting.

The search committees for the provost and vice provost have finished their work and have forwarded names to the President.

Finally, the Academic Council has been grappling with the issue of fully online undergraduate degrees for the past three or four years. Council is coming to a consensus over a restoration of the student residency requirement to qualify. The Senate will finalize that discussion and send an endorsement that would go out for full review next fall.

## VIII. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for Master of Climate Solutions on the Berkeley Campus [SSGPDP]  
*Lead Reviewer: Arvind Rajaraman*

The Lead Reviewer noted that there were concerns about the academic rigor of this proposal; it has a great many electives and no depth in them. UCPB is concerned about the cost and job placement. The proposers did not address the issues raised by the reviewers and were not willing to bend on the fundamentals of the program.

**Action Taken: The motion to approve the proposal was rejected 0-9-1.**

- B. Proposal for a MS in Data Science in Biomedicine on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]  
*Lead Reviewer: Erith Jaffe-Berg*

The Lead Reviewer said that the proposal was very strong. It has been vetted with the safeguards for SSGPDPs in mind. There was considerable exchange with the proposers, and they were very responsive. This program is focused on developing skills that will help move students into industry. They are hoping to create leaders in the biomedical data sciences. It has been very hard to get reviewers; there are two requests out. The curriculum seems sound. The Lead Reviewer recommended that the committee conduct an email review once the second review and UCPB review are in.

- C. Proposal for a joint PhD in Computational Precision Health from the Berkeley and San Francisco Campuses  
*Lead Reviewer: Dean Tantillo*

This program is being launched with a \$50M gift and UCB and UCSF have committed to getting \$100B more from a variety of sources. They are leveraging their respective strengths to create this combined program. The campuses are hoping to recruit the first cohort in fall 2023. They plan to start with eight students and grow to 40-50 students and have four new faculty positions that will be endowed philanthropically. There will be dedicated space at UCB and UCSF. Three reviews, two external and one internal were secured. The proposers' response to the review was very open and detailed; They took the suggested changes seriously.

**Action taken: The proposal was approved 9-0-1.**

- D. Proposal for a PhD in Astronomy on the Riverside Campus  
Review of this proposal will take place in fall 2022.
- E. Proposal for Divisional Status for Undergraduate Education on the Riverside Campus  
Review of this proposal will take place in fall 2022.
- F. Proposal for an MS in Computational Data Science on the Riverside Campus  
**Action Taken: Candace Yano was assigned as Lead Reviewer.**

- G. Proposal to Convert the Master of Legal Studies from In-Person to Hybrid on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]

The Vice Chair observed that this proposal entails the conversion of an existing program to an online delivery mechanism and it could be setting a precedent. WSCUC specifies that if a program has substantive change (more than 25 percent), it requires a re-review. In addition, UCLA has special requirements for SSGPDPs saying that programs that have more than a 25 percent change need to be re-approved. This original program was approved in 2019 and began to matriculate students in 2020. It went online due to Covid, and now the campus would like to make it hybrid permanently. It has not undergone its three year review, and there are significant changes to the budget.

***Action Taken:*** *The committee voted 9-0-2 to treat this proposal as a new proposal given the substantive changes. Andrew Fisher was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*

- H. Proposal for a College of Data Science and Society on the Berkeley Campus  
Review of this proposal will take place in fall 2022.
- I. Proposal for a Master of Computational Social Sciences on the Berkeley Campus [SSGPDP]  
Review of this proposal will take place in fall 2022.
- J. Pre-Proposal for a School of Population and Public Health on the Irvine Campus  
Review of this proposal will take place in fall 2022.

#### **IX. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations and Discontinuances**

- A. Proposal for a Discontinuance of the MAS in Medical Device Engineering on the San Diego Campus  
***Action Taken:*** *The proposal was approved 9-0-1.*

#### **X. The Impact of Implementing Oracle on Graduate Student and Post-Doc Education** *Erin Hestir, UC Merced*

Professor Hestir said that UCM and UCSD were the first campuses to transition to Oracle and it has led to a severe disruption of business operations on the campuses. There have been impacts to graduate student enrollment; there is a lot of caution with regard to PI spending in contracts and grants because of the uncertainty about balances. This has also resulted in hesitancy in going after grants and is eroding relationships between granting institutions and PIs. It is a huge financial burden for graduate students and post docs. Reimbursements have been delayed over 90 days in some cases. There has been marked trouble recruiting graduate students and post docs.

Professor Hestir suggested four “asks” from CCGA to OP. The first is to organize a working group that will develop ways that Oracle can be made useful to the campuses. The second is for additional staffing to interact with the system. The third ask is for funding for UCM and UCSD to address the delayed reimbursements. Finally, she would like there to be better consultation in future decisions that impact the financial workings of the campuses.

***Action Taken:*** *The committee voted 10-0-0 to submit the letter about the problems with Oracle to the Senate with copies to UCORP, UCACC and UCFW.*

**XI. Native Identity Fraud**  
*Sarita See, UC Riverside*

The Chair referenced the letter that had been included in the agenda packet regarding the impact of Native American affiliation fraud on graduate education, particularly the impact on student recruitment and the faculty pipeline. She suggested a few additions to the letter and called for a vote.

**Action Taken:** *The committee voted 10-0-0 to submit the letter, with the additions suggested, to the Senate.*

**XII. The Impact of Unionization on Graduate Student Research**

The Chair referenced the letter that had been included in the agenda packet regarding concerns about graduate student unionization. She stated that the focus of her letter was on the mentor-mentee relationship and how it is often a unique, lifelong professional relationship as opposed to a typical employer/employee relationship.

**Action Taken:** *The committee voted 10-0-0 to submit the letter to the Senate.*

**XIII. New Business**

There was no new business.

The committee adjourned at 3:07 p.m.