

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, July 7, 2021

I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Action Taken: *The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed, 10-0-0.*

II. **Chair's Report** – *Chair Amr El Abbadi*

The Chair remarked that the last two months have been very busy with several issues involving the Senate. He thanked the SSGPDP Sub-Committee for its hard work and subsequent report. He said it was very well-received and appreciated. The Council is forwarding it to the President and the Provost. The other big issue is the proposed delegation of presidential authority to the campuses for the approval of Master's degree proposals. He said that he had been to at least four meetings where this was discussed and the Provost faces a lot of pushback from faculty. However, each time he (the Provost) re-asserts his arguments. The Council wrote a strong letter about the Provost's proposal and has rejected it outright. The plan proposed by the Senate is that there be a sub-committee formed in the fall that would elevate the discussion. Affiliation with hospitals with ethical and religious directives (ERDs) has continued to be a very contentious topic. The Senate had a very clear position and rejected the affiliations, however the President presented the case for it and argued about serving areas in California that do not have adequate hospital care. The issue went up before the Regents. It was a difficult meeting. Regent Chair John Pérez suggested a couple of amendments to allow the affiliations while tackling concerns about the ERDs. The amendments did not address all of the concerns, but did address many of them.

III. **New Program Proposals**

A. Proposal for an MS in Genetic Counseling on the Davis Campus
- *Lead Reviewer Donald Smith*

The Lead Reviewer has been in regular contact with the proposers, and they assured him they were working on the proposal with the intent of resubmitting it. However, they were very uncertain about when the revised proposal would be ready.

Action Taken: *The committee agreed that the proposers should be given a deadline of July 26 for the revision or be asked to resubmit it next year.*

B. Proposal for an Online Master of Data Science on the San Diego Campus [SSGPDP]
- *Lead Reviewer Fernando Torres-Gil*

The Lead Reviewer said that the proposers had significantly improved the online degree proposal. In addition, he had gone through the UCPB response. The Lead Reviewer recommended approval.

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

C. Proposal for a MS in Health Data Science on the UCSF Campus [SSGPDP]
- *Lead Reviewer Andrea Kasko*

The Lead Reviewer said that there were concerns about TAs getting credit rather than being paid. They are not unionized, so they can get credit. There was an issue of faculty not being paid

for capstone projects; the argument is that it is part of their service. There is definitely a market for graduates. The campus already has a MAS of Training and Critical Research; nearly all of the curriculum already exists. There is some redundancy, but the capstone is focused differently. The Chair asked if the proposers had responded to the comments from UCPB. The Lead Reviewer said that the proposers stated that there isn't enough money for more return-to-aid. The Chair responded that there needed to be a better response to the UCPB comments. The Lead Reviewer said she would aim for an email vote over the summer.

- D. Proposal for a Certificate in Health Data Science on the UCSF Campus
- *Lead Reviewer Andrea Kasko*
This proposal was addressed above.
- E. Proposal for a PhD in Data Science on the San Diego Campus
- *Lead Reviewer Candace Yano*
The proposers were quite responsive. They have modified the course descriptions and added more content. They have added a responsibility requirement for the dissertation. The Lead Reviewer recommended that they ask their PhD students to be junior mentors for the students.
Action Taken: The proposal was approved 9-0-1.
- F. Proposal for a Master of Applied Chemical Sciences on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]
- *Lead Reviewer Partho Ghosh*
Special degrees are rare in chemistry and they take the plan for this from a Japanese model; there is no such track in the US. This is unique. There are going to be 11 specific courses with two tracks. The Lead Reviewer has received three reviews – two UC and one external. They were uniformly enthusiastic about the program. The program will use a portion of its profits for scholarships to recruit URM students.
Action Taken: The proposal was approved 8-0-2.
- G. Proposal for a Certificate in Equity in Brain Health on the San Francisco Campus
- *Lead Reviewer Hrant Hratchian (alternate, Erin Hestir)*
Alternate Hestir said that the review was highly favorable, but there was one issue of concern. The Lead Reviewer is going to request a response with the issue of diversity. If he gets a response from the proposers in a timely manner, the Lead Reviewer will propose an email vote.
- H. Proposal for a Dual Degree MAS in International Affairs with Seoul National University at the San Diego Campus
- *Lead Reviewer Donald Smith*
The Lead Reviewer has two reviewers and is waiting on a third.
- I. Proposal for a BS/MS 4+1 in Statistics on the Riverside Campus
- *Lead Reviewer Dean Tantillo*
The Lead Reviewer said that there are not any issues with the quality of the program. The main concern is the double counting of units. There are no hard and fast rules in the Compendium. The committee discussed the issue of double-counting at length and agreed to develop guidelines on it in 2021-22. The committee said that there should be a fifth year residency requirement.
Action Taken: The proposal was approved 9-0-1.

- J. Proposal for a BS/MS 4+1 in Microbiology on the Riverside Campus
- *Lead Reviewer Arvind Rajaraman*

This proposal has a Plan One and Plan Two. Twelve units are double-counted, so that students can finish in five years. There are no particular issues. The Chair stated that the proposal was not strong and should be sent back for corrections and strengthening.

- K. Proposal for a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics on the San Diego Campus
Action Taken: *Dean Tantillo was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*

IV. Transfer, Name Changes, Consolidations and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal for a Discontinuance of the Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP)/Master of Science in Civil Engineering (MSCE) Program on the Irvine Campus
Action Taken: *The proposal was approved 9-0-1.*

- B. Proposal for a Discontinuance of the Master of Advance Studies Degree in Simulation-Based Engineering on the San Diego Campus
Action Taken: *The proposal was approved 9-0-1. A note should be made that the campus should have sent a more extensive proposal.*

- C. Proposal for a Discontinuance of the Master of Advanced Studies in Structural Health Monitoring on the San Diego Campus.
Action Taken: *The proposal was approved 9-0-1. A note should be made that the campus should have sent a more extensive proposal.*

V. Executive Session

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Analyst.
Attest, Amr El Abbadi, CCGA Chair