

**Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA)
Annual Report 2013-14**

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

Per Senate bylaw 180, the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) advises the University President and all agencies of the Senate on all matters regarding research and learning related to graduate education. One of CCGA's chief responsibilities, as delegated by the Regents, is the authority to review and evaluate all campus proposals for new graduate programs and schools that require approval of the President. In addition, CCGA establishes basic policies and procedures for coordinating the work of the various graduate councils and divisions, recommends to the Assembly minimum standards of admission for graduate students, reviews standards and policies applied by graduate councils, reviews policies concerning relations with educational and research agencies, and approves UC graduate courses as system-wide courses to be listed in divisional catalogs.

Review of Proposed Graduate Degree Programs

During the 2013-14 Academic year, 19 proposals were submitted to CCGA for review; of these, 12 were approved, one was returned for further revision, and six were left to carry over into the next academic year; none were rejected. The date on which CCGA received each proposal is added after its name.

Campus	School/Program Proposed	Lead Reviewer	Disposition Date	Disposition Status
UCI	MA in Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics 2/2/14	J. Kim	—	Under Review
UCI	MA/PhD in Integrated Composition, Improvisation, and Technology 3/13/14	S. Somerville	—	Under Review
UCI	PhD in Informatics 5/15/13	V. Leppert D. Agrawal	11/6/13	Approved
UCLA	MA in Applied Economics 10/29/13	J. Bolander	6/4/14	Approved
UCM	M.S./Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics 5/12/13	Y. Seo	11/6/14	Approved
UCM	M.A./Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Graduate Group - Humanities 2/28/13	B. Schumm	11/6/13	Returned for Further Revision
UCM	M.A./Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Humanities 1/28/14	D. Mastronarde	2/5/14	Approved
UCM	MS and PhD in Physics 2/25/14	E. B. Robertson	6/4/14	Approved
UCM	MA and PhD in Sociology 5/22/14	J. Kim	—	Under Review
UCR	MA in Public Policy 10/14/13	K. Ng	3/5/14	Approved
UCSB	B.S./M.S. in Mechanical Engineering 5/20.14	D. Mastronarde	6/4/14	Approved
UCSB	PhD in Global Studies 10/25/13	B. Schumm	4/9/14	Approved
UCSC	M.S. in Scientific Computing and Mathematics 6/3/14	J. Bolander	—	Under Review
UCSD	Joint PhD in Applied Social Science with an emphasis on	C. Burke	—	Under Review

	Substance Use (with SDSU) 1/31/14			
UCSD	MAS in Data Science and Engineering 2/24/14	Y. Seo	4/9/2014	Approved
UCSD	Master of Finance 11/15/13	Y. Seo	2/5/2014	Approved
UCSD	MAS in Climate Science and Policy 9/13/13	M. Zubiaurre S. Somerville	3/5/2014	Approved
UCSF	MS in Health Policy and Law 4/1/14	K. Ng	7/2/2014	Approved
UCSF	PhD in Rehabilitation Science 6/11/14	V. Leppert	—	Under Review

Review of Proposals for Changes and Other Programmatic Matters

During the 2013-14 year, CCGA approved five requests for name changes, reconstitutions, conversions, and expansions.

Campus	Program Name	Change	Disposition Date
UCD	School of Nursing Physician Assistant Studies, Master of Health Services	Conversion from state- supported with PDST to SSGPDP	5/7/14
UCI	MS in Cognitive Neuroscience	Added to existing PhD program	11/08/13
UCLA	“En Route” MS in Nursing	Added to existing PhD program	11/8/13
UCLA	African American Studies Reconstitution	Departmentalization, transfer of graduate degrees	5/7/14
UCM	IIGP Renewal Request	Renewal	5/7/14
UCSC	Technology and Information Management M.S./Ph.D.	transfer of administrative home	6/4/14
UCLA	Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Languages and Cultures	Simple name change	7/2/14

Status of 2013-14 State Legislation Relevant to CCGA

AB 2350 (Bonilla)

Prohibits postsecondary educational institutions, including the faculty, staff, or other employees of these institutions, from requiring a graduate student to take a leave of absence, withdraw from the graduate program, or limit his or her graduate studies solely due to pregnancy or pregnancy-related issues; requires the written policy on sexual harassment to include procedures for Title IX pregnancy discrimination complaints and the name and contact information of the institution's Title IX compliance officer.

UC Position: Support.

AB 1834 (Williams)

Amends HEERA to provide that student employees whose employment is contingent upon their status as students are defined as employees or higher education employees - to create collective bargaining rights for new classes of working students, including UC graduate student researchers (GSRs).

UC Position: Oppose

Topics of Note During the 2013-14 Year

Academic Doctoral Student Support

Two years ago, a task force on graduate education reported on critical issues concerning the competitiveness of UC's academic doctoral programs. This task force found that rising tuition and uncompetitive stipends threatened to undermine program quality. In 2013-14, CCGA worked with the University to help remediate the findings of the task force. Specifically, it endorsed:

- The removal of the the effect of NRST after the first year.
- The goal of providing multi-year funding offers to graduate students in all programs.
- Continued expansion and implementation of professional development training for graduate students, including information about non-academic careers for PhDs.
- Improved connections with industry and public institutions.
- Increased effort by the campus development offices to provide immediate-use resources and endowments for graduate student fellowships.
- The goal of expanding summer bridge programs and dedicated fellowships to increase the pipeline of graduate students coming from CSU and CCC.

CCGA also was involved heavily in the All-UC Conference, from planning through collection of feedback. The Conference featured representatives from each campus and focused discussion on four major topics: professional development and partnerships, non-resident supplemental tuition, overall competitiveness in net stipends, and competitiveness in diversity and student recruitment. The outcomes are intended to inform recommendations for best practices to be taken to the Regents.

Graduate Education: Access and Diversity

In 2013-14, CCGA continued to be concerned about the establishment and oversight of PDST and SSGPDP programs and their effects on access and diversity.

In April 2014, CCGA forwarded to the Provost a copy of a 2011 CCGA policy statement which attempted to clarify the role of the Academic Senate in the decision to initiate the charging of PDST in state-supported graduate degree programs. The Chair encouraged the Provost to review the 2011 document and to share her thoughts about it with the committee.

Similarly, in July 2014, the committee reviewed the final SSGPDP draft proposal and provided the Senate with feedback. Among CCGA's more important comments were the following:

- Several campuses have concerns about differences between existing programs and some provisions of the new policy. CCGA requested that the policy be accompanied by a cover letter that explicitly details how the policy applies to previously approved SSPs. Specifically, what kind of deviations or exceptions will be considered "grandfathered in" and what features will need to be brought into compliance?
- CCGA asked that the Academic Planning Council consider issuing a statement clarifying the use of the M.A.S. title and the nature of this degree.
- CCGA expressed concern about the rapid expansion of SSGPDPs and their potentially dangerous impact on the University and its relationship to state funding. CCGA stated that it is unclear whether SSGPDPs will be required to adequately share their profits for the general campus good and whether the amount of administrative effort involved in developing, reviewing, and monitoring these programs will result in less time being available for other University efforts.
- Finally, CCGA expressed profound concern about student access as more SSGPDP and PDST programs are brought online; members feel that it will be difficult to ensure that fair access is maintained through the somewhat vague directives that are currently in the proposed SSGPDP and PDST policies.

Policy Clarifications and Refinements

CCGA Handbook Revision

During the 2013-14 year, CCGA undertook a thorough review of the *Handbook* for clarity and inconsistencies. The revised *CCGA Handbook* can be accessed through the Academic Senate website. The *Handbook* will be updated again once the SSGPDP and PDST policies are finalized.

Recommendation: Master of X as the Default Title for New SSGPDPs

In several instances, CCGA has insisted that requests for professional Master's degrees with PDST or self-supporting status should use the title Master of X rather than M.A. in X or M.S. in X. The aim has been to maintain, as far as possible, the distinction between academic degree programs (ineligible for PDST or SSGPDP status) and professional degree programs.

CCGA recommended to the local graduate councils and graduate deans that this distinction be carefully observed. Proposals involving PDST or SSGPDP funding should be described as professional degree proposals and should – by default – use Master of X rather than M.A. or M.S. Previously approved degrees that do not follow this practice are not required to change titles. Details about this recommendation are in Appendix J of the revised Handbook.

Five-Year Perspectives

Campuses routinely submit *Five-Year Planning Perspectives* to UCOP that list anticipated creations, transfers, consolidations, disestablishments, and discontinuances in undergraduate degree programs, graduate degree programs, schools, colleges, and research units. Preparing this document gives each campus the opportunity to gather information for its long-range planning efforts, and the results may promote coordination, synergy, and specialization. With the demise of the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), there has been some discussion of whether this exercise retains enough value to justify the effort. After a gap, the information has been gathered this year. Assistant Director Baxter shared a preliminary version of the Five-Year Planning Perspectives with CCGA. She encouraged the members to share the draft Perspectives with their graduate councils if they so choose.

UC Graduate Alumni Survey

The UC Graduate Alumni Survey collected information from UC doctoral alumni regarding their experiences and achievements since earning their degrees. This effort focused on alumni who graduated between 1944 and 2013 and produced the first-ever comprehensive view of this cadre of alumni. The data received from this survey will help inform policy and advance the discourse surrounding the impact and value of graduate education. IRAP Vice President Pamela Brown presented information regarding the Graduate Alumni Survey and its outcomes to CCGA. One of the key findings was that the majority of doctoral alumni spend their careers in higher education, though many land in private industry. Overall, most end up being relatively stable in the field they studied.

HBCU and HSI/TCU Initiatives

CCGA has followed the progress and success of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) initiative. Prior to the initiative, the five-year average (2008-2012) for enrollment of African Americans in UC academic doctoral programs was 2.6%. The UC-HBCU Initiative works to improve the representation of this population in UC graduate programs, particularly Ph.D. programs, by investing in relationships and efforts between UC faculty and HBCUs. In 2012 and 2013, UC hosted a total of 86 fellows across nine campuses. More than 80 fellows are expected to conduct research at nine campuses during summer 2014.

At CCGA's June meeting, Graduate Studies Director Jennings discussed a draft proposal for a similar program in collaboration with Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU). CCGA strongly supported this proposal and its commitment to improving access to quality graduate education among underrepresented groups.

Graduate Advocacy Day

Every year, graduate students from each UC campus gather in Sacramento to educate lawmakers about the importance of graduate research and its contribution to California's economy and progress. March 12 marked the fifth annual Graduate Research Advocacy Day. Twenty-two students were selected by their graduate deans to meet with legislators and to advocate on behalf of UC graduate studies and research.

Acknowledgements

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