

**COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (CCGA)
Annual Report 2017-18**

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 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 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 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 2017-18 Academic year, CCGA approved 17 program proposals; seven of these were Self-Supporting Graduate Degree Programs (SSGPDPs), and one proposal was a PDST (Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition). Eight proposals are currently under review and nine proposals (four which are SSGPDPs) are currently unassigned and will carry over to the 2018-19 year due to their late submission in the academic year.

No proposals, self-supported or state-supported, were declined.

Programs Approved During the 2017-18 Year

Campus	Program	Date Received	Date Approved	SSGPDP?
UCB	Information and Cyber Security	4/3/17	9/7/17	Yes
UCB	Molecular Sci. and Software Engineering	4/3/17	9/7/17	Yes
UCI	Computational Science	1/31/17	10/4/17	No
UCI	Nursing Practice (DNP)	4/8/17	1/3/18	Yes
UCI	Software Engineering	7/21/17	3/7/18	Yes
UCI	Innovation and Entrepreneurship	2/12/18	3/7/18	Yes
UCI	History & Theory of Music (PhD)	3/8/18	8/15/18	No
UCLA	Nursing Practice (DNP)	5/9/17	1/3/18	Yes
UCLA	Genetic Counseling	2/5/18	6/6/18	No
UCLA	Indo-European Studies	2/2/18	2/7/18	No
UCM	Electrical Engineering and Computer Sci.	2/28/18	7/19/18	No
UCSD	Professional Accountancy	2/8/17	7/5/17	Yes
UCSD	School of Public Health (Pre-Proposal)	4/24/18	7/5/18	No
UCSC	Coastal Science and Policy	6/21/17	4/4/18	No
UCSC	Statistical Sciences	7/20/17	5/2/18	No
UCSC	Serious Games	9/15/17	5/2/18	No
UCSC	Science Communication	1/8/18	4/4/18	No

The committee worked diligently with campuses and faculty throughout the year to help them craft and improve proposals that would meet the University's expectations of excellence.

Proposals Under Review to be Carried Over to 2018-19

Campus	Program	Date Received	Status	SSGPDP?
UCB	Master of Bioprocess Engineering	5/17/18	Under Review	Yes
UCLA	Communication	5/9/18	Under Review	No
UCM	Bioengineering	5/31/18	Under Review	No
UCM	Materials and Biomaterials Sci. and Eng.	6/19/18	Under Review	No
UCM	Management of Complex Systems	6/28/18	Under Review	No
UCSD	Global Health	3/26/18	Under Review	No
UCSD	Biostatistics	5/24/18	Under Review	No
UCSC	Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Bio.	5/21/18	Under Review	No

**Proposals to be Carried Over to 2018-19
(Showing those received by August 30, 2018)**

Campus	Program	Date Received	Status	SSGPDP?
UCD	MBA (Online)	8/16/18	To be Assigned	Yes
UCI	PhD Language Science	7/24/18	To be Assigned	No
UCI	Master of Presentation Design	7/24/18	To be Assigned	Yes
UCI	Master of Engineering	7/24/18	To be Assigned	Yes
UCR	Entomology (MS/PhD)	6/12/18	To be Assigned	No
UCR	Biophysics (MS/PhD)	7/12/18	To be Assigned	No
UCR	Masters of Supply Chain Logistics & Management	6/12/18	To be Assigned	Yes
UCSC	MFA Environmental Art & Social Practice	7/16/18	To Be Assigned	No
UCSC	MS Natural Language Processing	8/14/18	To be Assigned	No

Topics of Note During the 2017-18 Year

Introduction: Provost Michael Brown

Incoming Provost Michael Brown met with the committee in the fall and thanked them for the opportunity to visit. He expressed a strong interest in graduate student life, support, and transition, and said he would like to help the rest of OP understand the importance of UC's graduate programs and graduate students. He said that the value of graduate education seems muted as of late and that he would like to help make others aware of the power and prestige of UC's graduate programs

Provost Brown talked about his background as Dean of UC Extension and as a former chair of BOARS. He noted that SSGPDPs can provide the University with a way to reach a broader audience without diverting energy from traditional programs.

SB 201

The Chair reported on SB 201 (unionization of graduate student researchers), which was discussed at both the CoGD and the Academic Council and would affect all campuses. The UAW – and not the University - oversaw anything that was communicated to students about the issue; faculty were instructed to remain neutral. Both of the student representatives on the committee voiced reluctance to consult with their APIs or faculty advisors on this issue and expressed confusion as to where to go with questions about the proposed changes. Faculty also expressed confusion as to how to respond to student questions that might arise.

Open Access Policy

CCGA members discussed the Open Access policy. The issue of revenue to publishers was important to the members and its implementation and impact on faculty and University library budgets. The committee discussed its experience, knowledge, and concerns about Open Access and how it is being implemented in parts of Europe. The Chair tabled the request for approval and letter of support for the 18 principles and deferred to the Academic Council Chair to request further input from campus library committees and faculty prior to approval of the proposed policy.

Impact of Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017

CCGA members raised concerns regarding the 2017 tax legislation impacting graduate education, graduate stipends, and possible elimination of the deduction on qualified tuition. CCGA discussion resulted in a letter sent to Chair of Academic Senate regarding the tax bill. The letter resulted in Chair sending a letter to President Napolitano urging advocacy by the UC representatives in Washington DC. Two issues remained with the passage of the current federal tax bill: the concern of impacting University endowments and the loss of CA local and state tax tuition deductions.

Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDPs)

The Chair and the committee discussed CCGA's role in ensuring quality of the self-supporting programs and their possible impact on state-supported programs. This has become especially important in light of the proliferation of SSGPDPs in the past several years. Despite closely vetting and approving SSGPDP proposals, CCGA has been unable to make well-informed decisions about new proposals based on the paucity of information about the success of previously-approved programs on the campuses. Furthermore, CCGA felt the lack of data regarding possible effects of SSGPDPs on students in matriculated Master's programs is concerning, and a priority for CCGA is to begin collecting feedback from approved SSGPDPs to assure the programs are performing at levels consistent with expectations. Committee members reported concern that the proliferation of SSGPDPs is dramatically changing the educational environment across the UC campuses.

Academic Planning and Research Analyst Chris Procello gave the committee an overview of all SSGPDPs systemwide and any data related to them. Mr. Procello presented the committee with a comprehensive series of reports designed to add some context and depth to CCGA's information about SSGPDPs. These programs were initially meant for non-traditional students, but have grown in number as financial support from the state has declined. He provided a number of charts and spreadsheets that showed the growth of SSGPDPs, their prevalence on some campuses, the breakdown by race/ethnicity and gender in the programs, and the percentage of students who are international. Health and business programs make up about 50 percent of the programs, with the majority of enrollments being in business.

Chair Duderstadt surveyed members about the three to five-year review process of SSPs across the campuses. Members discussed their campuses' review protocols for SSGPDPs and reported inconsistencies in the review process and in the schedule for the reviews to be conducted. Many were uncertain about the level of review on their campuses, how it differed from regular program review (if at all), and the degree to which their Planning and Budget Committees were involved. Others commented that revenue from the SSGPDPs is collected at the campus level and is used (in part) to fund FTEs, creating a program budget imbalance on many campuses. One member noted that his campus was "pulling" some programs and replacing them with SSGPDPs.

Members felt that the University should develop a method to evaluate SSGPDPs. Questions as to the financial status of the programs and what – if any – negative impact they are having on the campuses continue to arise. Some members voiced concern about SSGPDP students and if they were eligible for – or using – campus services such as the health or writing centers, and if their impact on traditional students was

being calculated as part of the program evaluations. Some campuses have expanded student fees to SSGPDP students so they can have access to counseling, parking, etc. Students can now cross-enroll from SSGPDPs to state-supported programs, with no mechanisms to support that process; student services, return to aid, and student access need to be reviewed.

Another recurring question is if the programs have been generating the revenue anticipated. Are there programs that could be considered models and others that should perhaps be discontinued? Have they been working to increase the diversity of the campuses and have they been following through on return-to-aid? It is agreed that UCPB should play a role in SSGPDP evaluations. UCI has the largest number of SSPs of the all of the campuses. UCSC, UCSB, and UCM currently do not have any SSPs. Ten SSGPDPs are now inactive systemwide.

The Chair put forward that CCGA might target some of the more recent proposals to see how they have met their goals and how they might be impacting their departments across the campuses. The purpose of these reviews would be to help the committee better evaluate the strength of incoming proposals. However, creating and tabulating a systemwide survey would be a large undertaking. The committee and consultants discussed the goals of a possible survey and wondered which office on the campuses would be called upon to respond to the survey. Possible topics for the survey included whether return-to-aid expectations are being met, where any profits from SSGPDPs are being spent, and what impact SSGPDP programs and students are having on traditional programs.

The Chair crafted a list of survey questions to address data not captured by Mr. Procello's previous reports or by other areas of Academic Affairs. It was agreed that the questions would go out in two phases, with perhaps different responders for each phase. The survey would try to determine to what degree (if any) SSGPDPs impact traditional programs, endanger research life, and restrict undergraduate enrollment. The Chair suggested that the survey start in the spring, with the goal of having the results ready by the fall 2018. The Chair solicited some feedback from the proposed survey questions from Berkeley and Irvine. Their responses were incorporated into the survey questions, and the committee prepared to undertake the distribution of the survey.

Late in spring, the Senate Chair and Vice Chair expressed discomfort with CCGA's proposed survey. They felt that it could provoke a political scuffle and there would be some pushback from some of the campuses. The committee was very frustrated by this decision. It was suggested that perhaps a systemwide task force should be developed specifically to address the SSGPDP issue.

The Chair noted that the emphasis for CCGA is – and needs to remain - academic quality. CCGA maintains its belief that UC needs some systemwide strategic planning for the increasing number of SSGPDPs.

Acknowledgements

CCGA is grateful to have had valuable input from - and exchange with- these UCOP and campus consultants and guests over the past year: Provost Michael Brown, Vice President of Research and Graduate Studies Art Ellis, Graduate Studies Executive Director Pamela Jennings, Director of Academic Planning Todd Greenspan; Academic Planning and Research Analyst Chris Procello, and Council of Graduate Deans representative Marjorie Zatz (UCM). Special thanks to Academic Council Chair Shane White, Vice Chair Robert May, Senate Executive Director Hilary Baxter and Associate Director Jocelyn Banaria.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Duderstadt, Chair (UCSD)
Onyebuchi Arah, Vice Chair (UCSF)
Jon Wilkening/Holger Muller (UCB)
Greta Hsu (UCD)
Glen Mimura (UCI)
Caroline Streeter (UCLA)

Teamrat Ghezzehi (UCM)
Hyle Park (UCR)
Shahrokh Yadegari (UCSD)
Dyche Mullins (UCSF)
Bernard Kirtman (UCSB)
Gina Dent (UCSC)