

**COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (CCGA)
ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002**

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

The Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) is charged with advising University administration and the Senate on all matters related to graduate education and reviewing all campus proposals for new graduate programs and schools. During the 2001-2002 academic year, CCGA met eight times and additionally conducted business by email.

Growth and Support of Graduate Education. CCGA continued to keep apprised of issues pertaining to expanding graduate student enrollment at the University and increasing financial support for those students. Early in the year, the UC Commission on the Growth and Support of Graduate Education presented their recommendations to the Board of Regents. The Commission found that by 2010, the University will need an additional \$215 million annually to provide the financial support needed to add 11,000 graduate students and be competitive for the best. Much of the necessary additional support will come from traditional sources, but a \$65 million shortfall is anticipated. The Commission therefore recommended several initiatives which can be found in greater detail in their report.

Evidence from the 2001 Graduate Student Support Survey was also compiled in a report which analyzed how UC's student financial support packages compared with those offered by other institutions, and how support offers affect enrollment decisions. The survey indicated that the financial assistance offered by UC to students admitted to doctoral programs is not fully comparable to offers from non-UC competitors. On average, UC offered \$1,363 less in financial support than other competitive institutions. The report concluded that while students are attracted by the academic programs and reputation of UC, the differences in support offers put UC at a disadvantage in attracting students to its doctoral programs.

In May 2002, the Governor proposed to cut the entire budget for graduate and professional school outreach. This cut would have been detrimental to the targeted growth of graduate education. Thankfully, the entire \$5.2 million budget was restored by the Legislature's Budget Conference Committee.

Joint UC/CSU Ed.D. Initiative. In November 2001, the University of California and California State University agreed to jointly develop, implement, and fund educational doctoral programs that meet the educational leadership needs of specific regions across California. This agreement was reached after CSU agreed to withdraw their initiative to independently award doctoral degrees. A Joint Ed.D. Board was established under which both CSU and UC jointly makes decisions on doctoral programs leading to the

Ed.D. Both CSU and UC committed to contributing \$2 million each over the first two years to fund the proposals. In May 2002, CCGA received for review the first joint Ed.D. proposal from UC Santa Barbara and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Postdoctoral Scholar Issues. CCGA spent a considerable amount of time discussing postdoctoral scholar issues. As the number of postdoctoral appointments continues to increase, there is a need for greater awareness and attention to postdoctoral affairs. There is currently a wide variety of policies, practices, benefits, and services for postdocs among the nine campuses. CCGA recognizes the need for consistent and equitable treatment of postdocs systemwide. The committee reviewed a proposal by the Council of Graduate Deans (COGD) to improve postdoctoral education, which recommended offering full health benefits, providing a retirement investment option, and establishing a minimum stipend. The UC Council of Postdoctoral Scholars also recommended improving postdoctoral training and resources, such as better mentorship and career services. Both of these groups supported creating a systemwide professional research series with a specific title code for postdoctoral appointments. UCOP is expected to present a policy proposal on postdocs next fall.

Graduate and Professional School Admissions. Graduate and Professional School Admissions processes were brought under scrutiny by Assembly Concurrent Resolution 178, legislation requiring UC to implement a comprehensive review in the admissions process for graduate programs and professional schools and to prohibit standardized test scores from being used as the sole or primary criterion for determining admission or rejection.

After lengthy discussions, CCGA concluded that UC graduate and professional schools were already in compliance with the requirements of ACR 178. Graduate and professional school students are admitted based on a thorough evaluation of a range of academic and professional criteria, including standardized tests, grade-point average, the quality of the undergraduate education, letters of recommendation, research and practical experience, and personal interviews. The purpose of admissions screening is to predict success in and beyond the program. It is recognized that no single criterion is adequate. Therefore no applicants are ever rejected solely on the basis of a standardized test score.

CCGA also opined that a narrowness of admissions policies or an over-reliance on standardized tests is not responsible for the distressing decrease in the number of underrepresented minorities in UC graduate and professional schools in recent years. Rather, the cause of this problem lies elsewhere.

Review of Other Policies and Issues. During the course of the year, the committee also reviewed and commented on the following issues and proposals:

- Inclusion of a member of COGD as a representative to CCGA, and extension of this principle to include a member of CCGA as a representative at COGD meetings next year.
- The proposed augmentation of salary scales for graduate student researchers and postgraduate researchers.
- The proposal for a systemwide program of instruction on the responsible conduct of research.
- The policy proposals on faculty publications drafted by the UC Standing Committee on Copyright.
- The fifteen-year review reports of three Multicampus Research Units: UC Observatories/Lick (UCO), Institute for Nuclear and Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology (INPAC), and White Mountain Research Station (WMRS).
- The proposal for a Laboratory Professorship Program at Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories.
- Streamlining the review process.
- Revising the CCGA Handbook section on Conflict of Interest.

Reviews of Proposed Graduate Degree Programs. The following table is a summary of graduate program proposals reviewed by CCGA during the 2001-2002 academic year, and the disposition of these proposals as of August 2002. A total of 19 proposals for new graduate degree programs, including a proposal to reconstitute the UC Davis Division of Education as a School of Education, were forwarded to CCGA for review. In a few instances, programs were approved only after being revised in accordance with CCGA recommendations.

Program Proposed	Disposition
UCB, Joint Ph.D. in Demography & Sociology	Approved 10/9/2001
UCLA, M.S. in Biomathematics clinical training	Approved 10/9/2001
UCI, M.S./Ph.D. in Networked Systems	Returned to campus 11/27/01 (Revision submitted 5/20/02; Review deferred to Fall 2002)
UCR, M.F.A. in Creative Writing, Writing for the Arts	Approved 11/27/01
UCB, Graduate Group, M.S./Ph.D. in Molecular Toxicology	Approved 1/29/02
UCLA, M.A. in Moving Image Archive Studies	Approved 1/29/02
UCLA, M.S./Ph.D. in Neurobiology (renaming, restructuring)	Approved 2/26/02
UCSF, M.A.S. in Clinical Research	Approved 2/26/02
UCI, M.A.S. in Criminology, Law, & Society	Approved 3/19/02
UCI, M.S./Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering	Approved 3/19/02
UCI, Ph.D. in Psychology and Social Behavior	Approved 3/19/02
UCSC, M.S./Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering	Approved 4/2/02 (via email)

UCB-Columbia, Executive M.B.A. Program	Approved 5/15/02 (via email)
UCLA, discontinue M.A./Ph.D. Folklore & Mythology	Approved 5/21/02
UCD, reconstitution of the Division of Education as a School of Education	Approved 5/21/02
UCSC, Ph.D. in Education	Approved 6/18/02
UCD, Master of Public Health	Approved 7/8/02 (via email)
UCLA, S.J.D. in Law	In progress
UCSB-Cal Poly Joint Ed.D.	In progress

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