

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

- I. **Approval of the Agenda and Minutes**
Action Requested: The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 9-0-0.

- II. **Executive Session 1**
Amy K. Lee, Associate Vice Provost, Academic Personnel and Programs
Melissa Matella, Associate Vice President, Employee Labor Relations

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

- III. **Chair's Report**
Chair Dean Tantillo

The Chair reported that he attended the Provost's mini-congress. Overall, he was disappointed in the sessions.

President Drake spoke to Academic Council about employment for non-DACA undocumented students. The Provost discussed upcoming congress on AI. The Provost also mentioned that she is working with a labor consultant who will be producing a report for the President. Some version of that report will be shared with the faculty. There was discussion of a bill that would require seven-to-10-year background misconduct checks for all faculty and GSR applicants before a job offer is made. He remarked that this would create a significant administrative burden.

The workgroup on the future of graduate education appreciated the letter CCGA submitted on their interim report. They were pleased with the committee's candor and its push for the workgroup to be more radical in its recommendations. The plan is to have a section on the next report with bold suggestions. The Chair said that the first report on the subgroup on career preparation was also released. The group did not like the idea of separate doctoral tracks depending on careers. They also said that it should not be solely the role of faculty to provide all professional development training. There was more discussion of the summer GSR issue. There is precedent for having academic progress milestones in the summer, even when students are not enrolled.

- IV. **Announcements from Academic Affairs**
Theresa Maldonado, VP of Research and Innovation
Scott Brandt, AVP for Research and Innovation
Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies
Todd Greenspan, Executive Advisor, Academic Planning and Policy
Carmen Corona, Director of Academic Planning and Policy
Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst

Vice President Maldonado told the group that the Council of VCRs had a retreat at the end of October; on the second day, they were joined by CoGD. This is the first time the groups had met together. The CoGD conveyed frustration that they were not involved in the planning of the congress. Her office is working to get them involved in the VCR meetings every other month or so. She remarked that the department is trying to “get ahead” of the next round of negotiations and is also looking at student grievances that have been filed related to the contract. Her office is working with the VCRs to take a holistic look on how UC can support graduate students in the future, including mentoring students. This will include sharing information and best practices across the campuses. The Vice President told the group that there are policies coming out of the federal agencies that are issuing provisions on research restrictions which may have an impact on graduate students.

Executive Director Jennings said that she has been working with the APC workgroups and their subgroups. Later this month is the UC-HIS program and the PFP. The UC-HBCU deadline is March 15.

Executive Advisor Greenspan remarked that his office had sent out enrollment requests for the next four years; they are due back in April. There is a lot of uncertainty about the graduate enrollment going forward due to the declines in enrollment.

Analyst Procello said that workforce needs will be included in the next cycle of Planning Perspectives.

V. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership
Steven Cheung, Academic Senate Vice Chair

Academic Senate Vice Chair Cheung reported that the January Regents’ meeting was exceedingly chaotic and emotional. The Regents decided against hiring non-DACA undocumented students due to potential liability. There is a plan to revisit this topic in a year. The President and Provost are looking for opportunities to expand experiential learning programs that would come with stipends to address the financial stress borne by these students. Separately, several Regents feel the need to restrict what is put departmental websites. The Senate worked on to put a disclaimer that any statements are not the opinion of the University. The Regents called a working group and rushed to create a very poorly constructed website policy which would have banned all opinions. Ultimately, the Senate was given 30 days to review the policy. One item that did not make it to the Regents’ meeting was residency requirements of 630 E. This is a reinstatement of the residency requirement that has been long in Senate regulations. In 2021-22, the Senate endorsed the amendment that reframes the residency requirement as a campus residency experience. It requires freshmen and transfer undergraduate students to complete two semesters at their home campus. This protects the University from accreditation violations. However, the Regents see it as an instrument to block fully online undergraduate degrees.

The Vice Chair told the group that Craig Leisure is retiring from directing the National Laboratories after 35 years. Also, there is a proposed revision to SR 424 (Area H), which is the revised ethnic studies course criteria. BOARS approved the criteria, however

there were concerns about resources. The other piece that is very active with BOARS is Area C with regards to mathematics. There were questions if Data Sciences could qualify to validate Algebra 2. Finally, there is a Presidential task force on instructional modality and undergraduate degree programs.

Members had questions for the Senate Vice Chair, and there was discussion.

VI. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair James Bisley

The Vice Chair reported that the CoGD meeting was relatively short and UCACC has not met.

VII. Executive Session 2

Consultation with the Co-Chairs of the APC Workgroup on the Future of Graduate Education

Gillian Hayes, Vice Provost for Graduate Education, UCI

Susannah Scott, Distinguished Professor, UCSB

Minutes are not taken during Executive Session.

VIII. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for a Master of Advanced Studies in Physician Assistant Studies on the San Diego Campus [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Andrew Fisher

The Lead Reviewer remarked that the four reviewers were positive about the concept of the program, but UCPB was very concerned about some issues, both some fiscal and programmatic. He wrote the proposers asking for a revised proposal with a point-by-point response. They responded very quickly, though not with a point-by-point response. UCPB was frustrated with the response, but they were prepared to endorse the program. There is a real need for the program, and the key areas that are covered by CCGA have been addressed. The program has recruited very good people to run it. Ultimately, this is very good, needed program, but it was very badly proposed.

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 11-0-1.

- B. Proposal for an MS in Medical Physiology on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: David Booth

The Lead Reviewer is securing reviewers. UCPB feels that the cost is not equitable for students; it vastly exceeds the cost of other programs, and they are not accounting for state funds appropriately.

- C. Proposal for a School of Computing, Information, and Data Science on the San Diego Campus
Lead Reviewer: Chandra Krintz

The Lead Reviewer reported that the proposers had been responsive to feedback and had created a template for the MOUs.

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 10-0-1.

- D. Proposal for a Master of Engineering in Medical Device Development on the Davis Campus [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Tonya Williams Bradford

The Lead Reviewer told the committee that this proposal is a revision of a proposal that came to CCGA in 2021 and was sent back. CCGA had some questions and asked for some additional feedback; UCPB also had concerns. Reviewers cited a need for more information on market demand and stronger evidence of academic quality. The program has revised its materials and added that information as well as an updated letter of support. They also have come back with a lot more details on the financial model and how they are going to equip their labs. The vote is pending the UCPB report.

- E. Proposal for a PhD in Public Health with a Concentration in Health Services Research and Implementation Science on the San Diego Campus

Lead Reviewer: Sarita See

The Lead Reviewer is working on getting reviewers.

- F. Proposal for a School of Population and Public Health on the Irvine Campus

Lead Reviewer: David Barner

The Lead Reviewer has two UC reviewers and is working to get outside reviewers. The two UC reviewers have been very positive with minor comments.

- G. Proposal for a DNP – Nurse Anesthesia on the Davis Campus

Action Taken: Brooke Scelza was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

IX. Transfers, Consolidations, Disestablishments, and Discontinuances

- A. Notification: Graduate Academic Certificates Name Changes on the Davis Campus

Action Taken: The proposal was approved unanimously.

X. CoGD Report

Dean Jean-Pierre Delplanque

Dean Delplanque reported that the CoGD spring meeting gives the Deans a chance to learn from one another and helps improve administrative efficiency.

XI. Student Representative Reports

Sonya Brooks (UCLA)

Mohit Saraswat (UCM)

Neither student attended the meeting.

XII. Campus Reports

Members reported on campus business related to graduate education.

XIII. New Business

There was no new business.

XIV. Executive Session 3

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

The committee adjourned at 3:17 p.m.