

**COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS**

**Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

**I. Approval of the Agenda and the Minutes of the February 7, 2018 meeting.**

**Action Taken:** *The Agenda and Minutes were approved.*

**II. Chair's Report**

Academic Council Meeting

CoGD Meeting

The Chair was not able to attend Council, but did attend the meeting of the Assembly.

- The Huron Report continues to be the primary issue. It has now been distributed more widely and the Senate Chair and Vice Chair have been working to advise the President's Office in making recommendations and changes based upon it. There was not sufficient financial reporting within the document to see if there would actually be any savings and no sense of how it would increase efficiency. The Huron report asserted that OP is leaner than thought and has many "best practices." The results of the report and any possible actions will continue to be an ongoing discussion.
- The issue of the budget is deferred until the spring meeting; the Retirement Task Force is ongoing.
- The CoGD met. Its most important issue right now is the GSR organization and the bargaining units.
- OP has a grant from the Council of Graduate Schools to look where alumni are placed. It will help the University determine where current students may be placed and if alumni are properly prepared for the jobs they are getting.
- The Council continues to work with the President's Office on closing the salary gap. UCFW has worked very hard this year on this issue. UC faculty have not had equity in pay and it is causing faculty to leave. The benefit package used to be very significant but recent adjustments for incoming faculty have rendered that no longer the case.

**III. Vice Chair's Report**

- Budget and Planning Meeting
- UCORP ITS MRU Review
- UCACC Meeting

The Vice Chair echoed some of the Chair's report and added that the University is trying to develop a message about the value of graduate education. Perhaps CCGA can help in crafting this message and also can brainstorm ways to transmit this message to California. The 150 years celebration will provide a good opportunity to do this.

The Chair offered that Provost Brown has asked for two task forces: one on the academic mission and one on the educational mission. If anyone on the committee is interested, it should be a short-term commitment. Executive Director Jennings added that the task forces could use some more representation for graduate education. She said that the Regents' meeting will feature two

presentations on graduate education.

The Vice Chair said that UCORP has completed its ITS review and that the interviews went well and were quite informative. The Vice Chair reported that the task force is working on the reports now and will be happy to share them.

UCACC has been discussing the proposed Open Access policy; the public comment period is still ongoing and it did raise an issue of concern. When students put up their papers, they are taken in by a professional organization and put on eScholarship. eScholarship then sells these theses – in some cases, back to the University. This generated considerable discussion.

#### **IV. Announcements from Academic Affairs**

Vice President Ellis said that the University is piloting the UC Data Network Initiative on four campuses. The hope is to get the University librarians to preserve the data created by UC students and faculty. They will provide curatorial expertise, and will work to develop a plan going forward to give UC faculty a competitive edge. This is something that funding agencies and publishers are increasingly requesting. FAQs will be circulated.

Director Todd Greenspan discussed the Academic Mission and Grad Student Workgroups. Work has not started as of yet. The charges of task forces are still being developed and will be shared with the committee when they are ready.

Analyst Chris Procello informed the committee of a recent issue that had arisen related to the start date for an approved program. He asked members to be sure to include the start date for the approved proposals in the correspondence to the Senate or Provost.

Executive Director Pamela Jennings said that her department would have students in Sacramento to make legislative visits and present a Grad Slam showcase at the governor's council as part of the sesquicentennial. Graduate Studies also has items on the upcoming Regents' agenda.

#### **V. SSPGDP Evaluations – Update**

The Chair put forward that CCGA's role in the oversight of approved SSPGDPs might be to target some of the more recent proposals to see how they have met their goals and how they are impacting the departments across the campuses. The purpose of these reviews would be to help the committee better evaluate the strength of incoming proposals. She said that CCGA has an oversight role, but questioned what would be most useful in evaluating the programs over the long-term. Creating and tabulating a systemwide survey would be a large undertaking.

The committee and consultants discussed the goals of a possible survey and what data already exists for the SSPGDPs that have been approved. Members wondered which office on the campuses would be called upon to respond to the survey. Concerns were raised about SSPGDP students mixing with the traditional students but not having access to counseling or other services on campus. Other possible topics for the survey included whether return-to-aid expectations are being met, where any profits from SSPGDPs are being spent, and what impact SSPGDP programs and students are having on traditional programs.

The Chair said she would try to craft a list of questions that address data not captured by Mr. Procello's previous reports or by other areas of Academic Affairs. She plans to bring some sample questions to the next meeting for discussion.

## VI. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for a MS in Coastal Science and Policy on the Santa Cruz Campus  
– *Lead Reviewer Teamrat Ghezzehei*  
All the reviews received to-date state that the proposal is well-written, but there are some gaps in discipline. The Lead Reviewer is still waiting on one internal and one external reviewer.
- B. Proposal for a Masters of Software Engineering on the Irvine Campus [SSGPDP]  
– *Lead Reviewer Shahrokh Yadegari*  
Four reviews have been received and the Lead Reviewer sent a request for response to the proposers. There are some concerns that this program could steal students from an existing campus program. Reviewers also thought the load in the first year is too heavy and had questions about diversity. In addition, there were questions from UCPB. The proposers sent a response which seems to sufficiently answer the questions.  
**Action Taken:** *The proposal was approved 9-0-1 pending receipt of the Lead Reviewer's final summary report.*
- C. Proposal for a MS in Serious Games on the Santa Cruz Campus {PDST}  
– *Lead Reviewer Hyle Park*  
Two internal and two external reviewers have been secured and the Lead Reviewer hopes to have the reviews and a report ready by the April meeting. The internal reviews were both fairly positive. The Lead Reviewers is going to give some feedback to proposers so they can respond to the reports that are in.
- D. Proposal for a MS/PhD in Statistical Sciences on the Santa Cruz Campus  
– *Lead Reviewer Jon Wilkening*  
Four reviews are in and are all generally supportive, but some individual concerns were expressed. The Lead Reviewer will submit the comments to the proposers and wait for a response. If possible, the committee may do an email vote before the April meeting.
- E. Proposal for a MS in Science Communication on the Santa Cruz Campus  
– *Lead Reviewer Dyche Mullins*  
The Lead Reviewer was not at the meeting. The Chair read and email from him reporting that he has three reviewers secured and hopes to have reports by the end of March.
- F. Proposal to establish a Master of Arts in Indo-European Studies (within its existing PhD program) on the UCLA Campus – *Lead Reviewer Gina Dent*  
No reviewers that have yet been secured. This is a very rare and specific field.
- G. Proposal to establish a professional Master of Science in Genetic Counseling on the UCLA Campus  
– *Lead Reviewer Greta Hsu*  
Four reviewers have been secured and the reports should be ready soon.
- H. Proposal to establish a Master of Innovation and Entrepreneurship degree on the Irvine Campus [SSGPDP]  
**Action Taken:** *Holger Mueller was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*
- I. Proposal to establish a MS/PhD degree in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) on the Merced Campus.

**Action Taken:** *Bernard Kirtman was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*

## **VII. Transfers, Consolidations, Disestablishments, and Discontinuances**

- A. Proposal for a “simple” name change from the Flex-MBA to the Professional MBA on the Riverside Campus

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

- B. Proposal to reconstitute the MA in English as the MFA in Creative Writing on the Davis Campus

**Action Taken:** *This proposal does not require any systemwide action per a vote of 9-0-1.*

## **VIII. Consultation with Academic Senate Leadership**

The Council Chair said that shared governance at the University has improved since the President’s crisis related to the audit survey in the fall. She appointed a senior faculty adviser, Dan Hare, and created a formal inner cabinet which includes the Provost. She also created an outer cabinet that meets once a month and includes the Academic Senate Council Chair. The President has reconvened the Executive Budget Committee that had languished about 10 years ago. She, also, challenged the Senate to facilitate the transfer process from the California Community Colleges to UC. At the time of this report, the President was giving a kickoff at the Commonwealth Club for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

The state budget is usually voted on at the November Regent’s meeting but that did not happen; it has now been postponed until May. There will be a vote on Nonresident tuition in March, and a vote on regular tuition in May. Governor released his budget increases and UC received 2.7 percent as opposed to the 4 percent originally promised. In May, the University’s “ask” will be for about \$70- 75M for a tuition buyout. There is also a request for funds for deferred maintenance. Twenty-six million dollars are being requested for unfunded enrollment/overcrowding, \$5M for undergraduate enrollment increases, and \$5M for graduate student enrollment.

The Chair discussed the Huron Report and the response letter written by the Council to the President. He also discussed options offered by the report such as the possible separation of UC Health and the Medical Centers, UC Press, ANR, and EAP. The Chair and Vice Chair developed a suggestion for re-configuring the Office of the President to better depict its form and function. It also more strongly incorporated Academic Affairs into all aspects of systemwide operations.

The Council has voted on a plan that will eliminate the salary gap in three years and the President is committed to making some progress. Currently, the biggest driver for faculty leaving the University is salary.

## **IX. Updates from the Campuses**

Riverside has a biophysics program in the pipeline.

Santa Cruz has human computer interaction.

San Diego has two name changes and one interdisciplinary program in public health.

Merced has bioengineering in the next month or so, and maybe two or three more.

Berkeley has no pending proposals.

Irvine has a PhD in music history and theory, one name change, and possibly two other programs.

Davis has a Masters in genetic counseling.

UCLA has no pending proposals.

**X. Executive Session**

Executive Session was not held.

**Adjourned 3:25**