

## COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

## Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, April 5, 2017

**I. Consent Calendar**

A. Approval of the Agenda and Approval of the Minutes of March 2017.

Action Taken: *The agenda was approved as noticed; the minutes were not yet available.*

**II. Chair's Report - Chair Kwai Ng**

- Budget call: Degree Without Debt. The Assembly has put forward a proposal to lower parents' contribution to one-third of the federal guidelines. This aims to reduce the amount of student loans and will provide some relief for middle class to upper-middle class families. Right now, the full cost of attendance for UC is quite high without any support or aid. One key component of the proposal is grant and aid. One of the most important new features is that students will be asked to work three summers in exchange for not having to take out student loans. If put into place, the program would cost the state about \$1.6B; however it would eliminate student debt. It is unclear at this time if the Senate or the governor will support it. The proposal would only serve undergraduates at this time.
- Regents' Meeting: The Regents did not endorse a proposal for a 20 percent systemwide cap on non-resident enrollment due to concerns raised by some Regents about whether this is doing enough to satisfy the concerns of the legislature and the state. They are pushing it back to the May meeting, and it is very unclear what to expect at that point. There is a gap between what UC and the Legislature want. Some Regents share the Legislature's concerns; however five or six of them were not in attendance at the March meeting. There is concern that reliance on NRST would widen the gap between campuses who have a high number of non-resident students and those who do not.
- Academic Council Meeting; Meeting with Regent John Pérez: The Chair noted that Regent Pérez is a powerful Regent who chairs the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. The Chair said that Regent Pérez was very frank about the public expectations of UC and how UC may not be sensitive to those expectations. He is a proponent of campus-level advocacy. He believes that it would be much more effective if individual campuses talked to their legislators directly, and not through UCOP. The Chair remarked that the Regent has visited all of the campuses, and was very well informed.

The PDST policy was approved by the Regents. The new features of the revised policy include the use of multi-year plans, emphasis on demonstrable needs, and a smaller role for comparison to other institutions. CCGA supported the new policy. The next phase will be the development of the policy implementation strategy.

The President is going to visit Mexico City to reaffirm the University's collaboration and commitment with Mexico.

Robert May from UCD was elected as incoming Senate Vice Chair.

International Thinking Day generated many ideas. It is difficult to know at this point how many will translate into actual proposals.

- Academic Planning Council: The Provost has decided to retire this summer; the search for her replacement has started. The goal is to have a successor in place before she leaves. Any UC faculty or administrators may apply. The Provost wants to revisit the Compendium on a couple of fronts including the process of school review. The Chair asked for inclusion of information on conversions and also some clarity about the circumstances (e.g., private donation?) whereby a pre-proposal for a new school may be waived. It is unclear if either of those topics will be part of her revisions to the Compendium.

### **III. Vice Chair's Report – Vice Chair Karen Duderstadt**

CoGD: The meeting featured two agenda items that are of interest of CCGA. The first was the discussion of sexual harassment issues. The new Title IX coordinator visited and spoke about UCOP's strong policy regarding sexual harassment. One item that came to the fore was that the deans seem to think that graduate students may be less connected to this policy than undergraduates.

Senate Bill 201 enables GSRs to unionize under HERRA. The bill has been in Assembly committee and is now in the Senate, was authored by the UAW. Faculty should not discuss specifics of the bill with grad students as it is considered a conflict of interest. The Council will continue to follow the progress of the bill through the Legislature.

### **IV. Collective Excellence**

Vice President Art Ellis discussed the University's Collective Excellence initiative that investigates the many ways that scholars can contribute to UC's research enterprise. Such contributions include: team-based scholarly output, stewardship of research tools, traditional research, teaching-research collaborations, and a globally-engaged, diverse research workforce. The last point has to do with diversity and mentoring, which is of particular concern. The Council of Graduate Deans received complaints from some students in the fall regarding less-than-ideal mentoring experiences, and the graduate deans were not sure how to solve the problem. The Chair noted that many good examples of diverse scholarship exist and that CCGA was part of an ongoing discussion with Fiona Doyle about the difficulty of promoting good mentorship. The Vice President noted that UC had talked with NIH and the Institute was very enthusiastic about the University putting forward as a national summit that would create a more inclusive post-doc hiring process. NIH would consider a new kind of trainee program that could take someone directly from PhD programs and place them into teaching roles.

The Committee discussed the issue at length, with some members expressing confusion about the role of CCGA and the implications of possible changes. It was decided that the Committee would collect guidelines on mentorship best practices from the campuses and distill them to principles that would generate some practical benefits.

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

*Jim Chalfant, Academic Senate Chair*

*Shane White, Academic Council Vice Chair*

Senate Chair Chalfant remarked that the Regents have been very focused on non-resident student enrollment. The conversation is continuing around the PDST policy, which was approved. The Regents will be concerned about diversity and access on a program-by-program front with regard to PDSTs. A lot of work is still to be done on implementation.

The Regents' NRST agenda item was changed from an action item to a discussion item in March; it will come forward again in May. The systemwide cap would create a tiered system: the smaller

and more diverse campuses will be the most disadvantaged, and their growth will be profoundly affected.

## **VI. Announcements from Academic Affairs**

*Todd Greenspan, Academic Planning Director*

*Pamela Jennings, Graduate Studies Director*

*Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst*

Ms. Jennings stated that the Graduate Wellbeing Survey will go to the Regents as well as an item regarding graduate student diversity. UCLA and UCSF will likely be in attendance. Campus Grad Slam events are taking place. Some are completed and some are still in the offing. The systemwide Grad Slam will be once again live-streamed from LinkedIn. A new feature will be a “People’s Choice Award” that will enable remote viewers to participate in the voting.

Mr. Greenspan commented that the State Assembly held a budget hearing last week which included discussion of UC’s “ask” for funding for 900 additional graduate students. It was funded last year, but was struck by the governor. This year, pressure is being brought to bear for the money to go for California students only.

Mr. Procello informed the committee that the fee approval requests for SSGPDPs are due; he is expecting a total of approximately eight. In addition, the 2017 Accountability Report is being compiled.

## **VII. Program Proposals**

- A. Proposal to establish a graduate program for the MFA degree in Social Documentation on the Santa Cruz campus – *Lead Reviewer Ana Peluffo*  
Three letters have been received, and the Lead Reviewer is waiting on one more. Most of the letters have been very positive; the problems identified thus far are not major.
- B. Proposal for a Program of Professional Graduate Studies with PDST for a Master of Management offered by a new Graduate Group in Management of Innovation, Sustainability, and Technology on the Merced Campus – *Lead Reviewer Dick Arneson*  
The Lead Reviewer has received three letters and has forwarded comments to the program. He has yet to hear back from the proposers.
- C. Proposal for a 4+1 BA/MA in European Thought and Culture on the Irvine campus  
– *Lead Reviewer Dar Roberts*  
The Lead Reviewer noted a number of deficiencies at the last meeting and sent the proposal back to the program. They generated a revised version of the proposal and sent a list of potential reviewers.
- D. Proposal for a JDP with SDSU in Computational Science on the Irvine campus  
– *Lead Reviewer Mike Coffey*  
Five reviewers have been secured, and one has already responded. That one that is in is very positive and very systematic. Because it is a joint proposal, the higher overhead needs to be justified. In addition, there is a three-hour commute between the two campuses. There are questions as to why this is being put forward as a joint proposal.

- E. Proposal for an MS in Geotechnical Engineering on the San Diego campus  
 – *Lead Reviewer David Min/Susan Charles*  
 The previous Lead Reviewer has taken a leave from the University to run for political office. The new Lead Reviewer is seeking reviewers and will inform the campus about the delay. The proposal is missing its CVs.
- F. Proposal for a Master of Public Health (MPH) on the San Diego campus [SSGPDP]  
 – *Lead Reviewer Daniel Neumark*  
 Three reviews are in; two external and one internal.
- G. Proposal for a Master of Real Estate Development and Design (MRED+D) on the Berkeley campus [SSGPDP]  
 – *Lead Reviewer Onyebuchi Arah*  
 The Lead Reviewer is still searching for reviewers, but most are declining.
- H. Proposal for a Master of Professional Accountancy at the Rady School of Management [SSGPDP] at the San Diego Campus  
**Action Taken:** *Ramesh Balasubramaniam was assigned as the Lead Reviewer.*
- I. Proposal for a Master of Molecular Science and Software Engineering (MSSE) at the Berkeley campus [SSGPDP]  
**Action Taken:** *Adam Cunha was assigned as the Lead Reviewer.*
- J. Proposal for a Master of Information and Cyber Security (MICS) at the Berkeley campus [SSGPDP]  
**Action Taken:** *Donald Smith was assigned as the Lead Reviewer*

### **VIII. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances**

- A. Proposal for a name change from an MS in Structural Engineering with Specialization in Health Monitoring, Prognosis, and Validated Simulations to an MS in Structural Engineering with Specialization in Health Monitoring and Non-Destructive Evaluation on the San Diego campus.  
**Action Taken:** *The name change was approved 7-0-2.*

### **IX. Items Under Review**

- A. Teaching Professor Policy /LSOE  
 The title of LSOE (Lecturer with Security of Employment) varies in application from campus to campus and so the reaction to a possible change has been mixed. Some campuses do not use it much at all. LSOE are unionized; teaching professors are not. Members noted that faculty in this role do a difficult job. They are carrying heavy service loads, and “lecturer” does not necessarily convey those efforts. Sabbaticals are being negotiated; currently these faculty are not eligible. It is not certain that the salary scale for LSOEs will be exactly the same as ladder rank faculty, but it will be similar in its structure (e.g., number of steps). There will be promotion and merit review and similar steps and the ability to go above scale.

### **X. Conversation with the Provost About PDST**

The Provost thanked CCGA for its support of the new PDST policy, which was recently approved by the Regents. Although an implementation strategy has not yet been released, any campuses that put forward new PDST proposals will need to adhere to the new policy. She said that her office has about 60 PDST requests, and it is going to review those that have plans that are three years old or more. The President has the authority to approve up to a five percent increase until the year 2020, and the Provost may make use of that if needed. In January 2016,

four nursing programs went before the Regents for PDST increases greater than eight percent. The Regents were put off by the proposals, and so the President took them all off the table.

The Chair raised the issue of programs that want to convert from PDST to SSGPDP. The Provost said that the campus would really need to “sell” the rationale for the conversion. In addition, it would also need to meet the usual SSGPDP requirements and must be able to demonstrate that there would be a clear set of jobs for program graduates. She said that it was the role of CCGA to give interested programs guidance regarding conversion proposals.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst

Attest: Kwai Ng, Committee Chair