



COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Notice of Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Action Taken: *The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 11-0-0.*

II. Chair's Report

Chair Partho Ghosh

The Chair reported that Professor Steward (UCSF) has agreed to serve as CCGA Vice Chair in 2026-27. He also thanked the students for their service this year; the June and July meetings will be transactional-only.

There is a new contract with UAW. Salaries will go up about four percent. He recommended viewing Grad Slam, for which he had just served as a judge. First place went to UCM, then UCB, and UCSF. UCAD Plus Workgroup Five has submitted their comments to the steering committee.

Chair Ghosh reminded the group that the Council consent calendar was objected to in March because of a fully asynchronous program that CCGA had approved. The issue was resolved in the April meeting with a request that CCGA develop some guidance regarding fully asynchronous programs. It seems likely that AFSCME will strike in the middle of May. UCOP is looking to provide training about the new contract. President Milliken came to Council and talked primarily about the Yale Report. There was a proposal for a systemwide committee on climate and sustainability which was met with objections. There is going to be a letter from UCODE about the PPFP and a memo from UCEP regarding the lack of Senate consultation in the actions of UC Online. UCORP has a letter on research funding transparency. APC talked about international collaboration for funding and revisions to the Compendium, which will be starting this fall. The Early Career Scholar awards have been made. Senate Chair Palazoglu announced the election of the incoming Academic Senate Vice Chair, Amani Nuru-Jeter from UCB. There was a long discussion on the Master Plan in light of a new governor being elected. There is a lot of legislative push to blur the lines of the Master Plan; this is very concerning. Finally, license plate readers have been reporting to ICE at UC Merced. This has been stopped.

III. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Ele Grandi

Vice Chair Grandi reported that she had attended COGD on April 15 where the UCAD Plus Workgroup Five report was discussed. This included feedback from CCGA. The issue of time-to-degree was important as well as encouraging student feedback on the report. There was discussion about offramp paths and nomenclature. Separate topics included expanding loans and the duration of status. The Vice Chair also participated in the spring COGD meeting at UCSF. The major event on the second day was the session on renewing confidence in graduate education.

The Faculty Advisory Committee met once. Current work focuses on the implementation phase.

IV. Council of Graduate Deans' Report

Peter Biehl, UCSC

Dean Biehl said COGD meeting included a discussion of the sunseting of Grad Plus. He was asked to take the lead on writing a letter asking for a UC-version of Grad Plus. Most campuses do not have that opportunity and a systemwide approach might be much better. UC needs to uphold its values of access and equity.

V. Announcements from Academic Affairs

Todd Greenspan, Executive Advisor, Academic Planning and Policy

Carmen Corona, Director of Academic Planning and Policy

Director Corona discussed WSCUC developments. The US Department of Education has discouraged the use of "Regional Accreditor," which will have a considerable impact on UC and anything that is outwardly facing (catalogs). She is working with UC Legal to determine how and when to be in compliance. She reviewed various factors that may be affected by the change.

The Director said that a new analyst from her team, Courtney Wilson, will be joining CCGA to handle program proposals in place of Chris Procello. She also introduced the UC Dialog Fellows Program, which is a new effort from GUEA and IRAP that provide funding and other support to faculty. A formal announcement will come through the campus leadership. Grants are \$5000 and any faculty or staff can apply.

Executive Advisor Greenspan said that his office has received the campus multi-year enrollment plans. PhD enrollments have declined approximately nine percent from 2022-2023. Undergraduate enrollments are going up. The Regents and President have been talking at length about amending the Master Plan and the possibility of making a new one. President Milliken wants to respond to AI and federal challenges and is looking to the Master Plan to address these concerns. Relatedly, when UC rejected the majority of doctoral proposals from CSU, Assemblymember Alverez introduced legislation that would give CSU carte blanche with regard to doctoral degrees. However, that item did

not have CSU support and has been dropped.

VI. Campus Reports

Members reported on issues related to graduate education from their divisions.

VII. Draft Generative AI Use Policy (UCM)

Irene Beattie, UCM

Professor Beattie discussed the draft AI Use Policy that had been developed at Merced. She explained that it had been developed jointly by the GC and UGC. The draft policy is focused on student use of AI for learning, coursework, and milestones and defines what is acceptable and what is unacceptable. Differences between STEM and the humanities were explored. There is a lot of concern about AI weakening writing and coding skills and bordering on misconduct. Students are using AI information without being able to explain it. Another key issue is the idea of detection vs. transparency (through disclosure or documentation). She noted that a large group of faculty (primarily from the humanities and social sciences) are diametrically opposed to AI. The policy does not discuss faculty use.

VIII. Systemwide Information and Items Under Systemwide Review

A. Chair Palazoglu's Remarks to the Board of Regents

IX. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Susannah Scott, Academic Senate Vice Chair

Senate Vice Chair Scott reported that she and the Chair were at the Regents' Meeting, which featured a briefing on a security incident with Canvas. The perpetrators have accessed personal information and are asking for a ransom from the parent company, Instructor. She said more information would be forthcoming.

UC reached an agreement with UAW and averted a strike. The details still need to be worked out; there will be a communication coming later this week or early next. The Senate was pleased to see that the agreement incorporated language that specifically said everything academic is the sole purview of the faculty and the union cannot grieve in that arena; grievances will be automatically denied. The overall wage increase is about four percent, but the impacts will be very different on the campuses. Three (UCB, UCLA, and UCSF) that have already negotiated a different scale. In 2029/30, the two pay scales will merge. The contract includes provisions for more paid leave and details as to whom will be paying for them as well as childcare benefits. The increase and merging of the scales are going to cause significant financial pressure. She is working with Senate Chair Palazoglu and CFO Brostrom to try to find ways to address this problem. The Unit 18 Lecturer contract expires in June. There is Senate representation on the bargaining team.

Vice Chair Scott said that the Regents' Meeting featured a large and interesting discussion

about the University budget and the impacts of all of the changes that have been happening.

There are multiple bills being put forward now to modify the Master Plan that are very piecemeal. The Senate has been conveying to the Regents and the legislature that it is appropriate to look at the Master Plan, but it should be done holistically.

The Assembly elected Amani Nuru-Jeter (UCB) as the new Academic Senate Vice Chair; she will take office in September. The Assembly also ratified two Oliver Johnson awardees. President Milliken discussed the Yale Report and voiced deep concern about the lack of public trust in higher education.

The UCAD Plus Task Force is meeting tomorrow in person and will have representatives from the administrative transformation workgroup. The plan is to talk about individual projects and cross-cutting ideas.

Members had many questions and concerns about the union negotiations.

X. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for an MS in Global Regulatory Science and Innovation (GRSI) from the San Francisco Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Baolin Wu

The Lead Reviewer had a conversation with the program director, and believes a revision is in progress. If the change is significant, it will have to go back to the campus. Professor Steward will assist in assessing the changes.

- B. Proposal for a Master of Design (MDes) from the San Diego Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Erkin Seker

The proposers updated their spreadsheet and resolved the question about FTE hires.

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 10-0-2.

- C. Proposal for an MA in Anthropology from the Santa Cruz Division

Action Taken: New Proposal Requested

- D. Proposal for a Master of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (MAIML) from the Berkeley Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Hyle Park

The Lead Reviewer reported that he has three reviews in hand and is waiting for a fourth. The three are fairly uniform in their comments, so he will be sending them to the proposers following the meeting. One significant comment was that the exit is a

comprehensive and not a capstone. There is no clear waiver policy in place. The primary faculty are all teaching professors, and the EECS faculty involved do not seem enthusiastic; there are worries about faculty buy-in. Additionally, there are concerns about state-supported students being crowded out by the program which is supposed to grow significantly.

- E. RESUBMISSION: Proposal for an Online Master's in Preventive Veterinary Medicine and One Health (eMPVM) from the Davis Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Irene Beattie

The Lead Reviewer used four of the five reviewers from the original proposal, and they were much more positive about this submission. The quality is good, and the online mimics the in-person program. There are detailed plans for course development. The revision gives a much clearer account and replies more heavily on Senate instructors. The budget has been revised substantially. UCPB was satisfied with the changes. It is a one-year degree, but the required number of units means that the student needs to take over 16 units a quarter, which exceeds the campus limit. The Lead Reviewer will go back to the campus with some questions.

- F. Proposal for a One-Year Track for the MS in Epidemiology from the Irvine Division

Lead Reviewer: Wayne Steward

The Lead Reviewer explained that this is more of a modification and it was not prepared as a new proposal; it does not need reviewers. The campus has an existing two-year program and wants to make a one-year option for people who are advanced in their experience. This will not be poaching from the two-year program. They would shrink credits and they would switch from a Plan 1 to a Plan 2 capstone. Other than that, it is the same.

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

- G. Proposal for a Master of Population Data Science from the Los Angeles Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Joe McFadden

The Lead Reviewer has gone through two rounds of requests and has not yet secured reviewers.

- H. Proposal for a Master of Instructional Design (MInD) from the Berkeley Division [SSGPDP]

Action Taken: Sutanu Sarkar was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

- I. Consultation Request: Computer Science Degree Requirement Change from the Davis Division.

The Vice Chair explained the request. The Chair stated the Handbook allows a request from a divisional Graduate Council for systemwide review for possible substantive

changes.

- J. Proposal for a Master's in Education and Teaching Credential from the Davis Division [PDST]

Action Taken: Neil Gilbert was assigned as Lead Reviewer. Analyst Harms will ask for names of suggested reviewers.

XI. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal to Change the Name of the School of Computing, Information and Data Sciences to [Donor Last Name] School of Data Science and Computing from the San Diego Division

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 10-0-2.

- B. Proposal for a Simple Name Change from the MA and PhD in African American Studies to African Diaspora Studies from the Berkeley Division 11-0-1

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

- C. Proposal for a Discontinuance of the Doctorate in Engineering from the Davis Division

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 10-0-2.

- D. Proposal for the Disestablishment of the Avian Sciences Graduate Group from the Davis Division

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 10-0-2.

- E. Proposal for a Simple Name Change for the DNP – Family Nurse Practitioner to Family Nurse Practitioner from the Davis Division

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 10-0-2.

XII. New Business

Chair Ghosh said that there had been a suggestion from Council for CCGA to develop some guidelines regarding fully asynchronous programs. This guidance would be included in the Handbook and would list some criteria for engagement and academic integrity. This guidance might be expanded to online programs in general.

Vice Chair Grandi, Professor Gilbert, and Professor Saltikov will work on this effort.

XIII. Executive Session

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

The committee adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

