



COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Action Taken: *The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed, 10-0-0.*

II. Chair's Report

Chair James Bisley

The Chair reported that he had been to three meetings this month. From the budget meeting, he explained that the University had been on track for an eight percent cut that would be mitigated by carryover from the compact. But the governor reduced it to three percent, and UC kept the carryover, which means that UC is currently looking at a \$4M cut. There is hope that the cut will be removed completely.

From Council, Chair Bisley noted that announcements regarding the new president and new UCR chancellor had gone out. The chancellor for UCSB should be announced in the next week or two. There is an upcoming survey on systemwide Senate experience; he encouraged members to fill it out.

UCAD has been meeting every week and has discussed research funding data. About 350 grants across UC have been terminated. There are concerns about the long-term effects of the cuts. From the FGR perspective, when cuts are made to budgets, it is hard to put the money back in at a later date. In terms of specific programs, the concern is that it can take two to four years to get a program re-started once it has been cut. An interim report should come out this month and will probably suggest that the group be a joint workgroup.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

III. Consultation with The Vice President for Research and Innovation

Theresa Maldonado, VP for Research and Innovation

The Vice President for Research and Innovation discussed actions from Washington, DC, and University's responses. She invited the committee to weigh in with concerns and suggestions regarding graduate students.

IV. Vice Chair's Report and CoGD Report

Vice Chair Partho Ghosh

Chad Saltikov, UCSC

Vice Chair Ghosh reported on the MRU reviews.

Professor Saltikov remarked on his meeting with CoGD. He reported that the graduate deans are working hard to promote graduate education. He said they are looking at increasing the number of master's degrees and how to improve time-to-degree; the CoGD is interested in CCGA input. There was a discussion about the European model of graduate studies in terms of shortening time-to-degree and cohort sizing. He noted that some campuses have many umbrella programs (usually in STEM), and would it be appropriate to have umbrella programs outside of STEM. He said that the University needs to honor the funding commitment to current students. Finally, he asked what is the role of CCGA in onboarding the new president.

Members had questions, and there was discussion.

V. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for a Master of Public Administration from the Irvine Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: *Wayne Steward*

The Lead Reviewer reached out to the proposers with feedback (and the dates of the next two meetings) and has not heard back. The Lead Reviewer went over the feedback that was received and the need for response. CCGA cannot move forward until it hears back from the proposers.

- B. Proposal for a Master of Global Public Affairs from the Los Angeles Division [PDST]

Lead Reviewer: *Sutanu Sarkar*

The Lead Reviewer reported that all four reviews were largely positive. He contacted the proposers regarding some small concerns, and their response was very comprehensive.

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

- C. Proposal for a PhD in Health, Society, and Behavior from the Irvine Division

Lead Reviewer: *Sarita See*

The Lead Reviewer reported that she had received four reviews that were largely positive. She submitted some concerns to the proposers, who replied with a thorough response and a red-line revised proposal. The Lead Reviewer remarked that she would like to see a recommendation for the acquisition of a foreign language or, at least, the recognition that it is a good resource in public health.

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

- D. Proposal for a Master of Applied Artificial Intelligence for Science from the Irvine Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: *Ilan Adler*

The Lead Reviewer explained that the proposal is very well-defined and justified. All the reviewers were positive, with minor concerns. He expects to vote in July, pending report of UCPB.

- E. Proposal for an *en Route* MS in Environmental Science and Management from the Santa Barbara Division

Lead Reviewer: *Chad Saltikov*

The Lead Reviewer reported that the proposal met all criteria for an *en Route* MS.

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

- F. Proposal to Add a Stand-Alone MA to the Existing MA/PhD in Study of Religion from the Davis Division

Action Taken: *Chad Saltikov was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*

- G. Proposal for a Dual Degree BS/MD from the Merced and San Francisco Divisions

Action Taken: *This proposal is deferred until fall for want of an available, continuing Lead Reviewer.*

VI. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal for a Simple Name Change from the Graduate School of Marine Sciences to the School of Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences from the San Diego Division

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

- B. Proposal to Discontinue the Doctor of Nursing Practice SSGPDP from the Los Angeles Division

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

- C. Proposal to Change the Administrative Home of the Digital Arts and New Media Program and Disestablish the Theater Arts MA from the Santa Cruz Division

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

- D. Proposal for a Simple Name Change from the PhD in Astronomy to the MS and PhD in Astronomy and Astrophysics from the San Diego Division

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

VII. Principles for Awarding Degrees Posthumously

The Chair said he had recently received a revised document from UCEP. Members had some suggestions for the language of the principles. The Chair said he would bring them back to the UCEP Chair, and that they would bring forward a revised version forward in July.

VIII. Systemwide Information and Items Under Systemwide Review

A. Senate Chair Cheung's Remarks to the Board of Regents

B. Proposed Revisions to Academic Personnel Manual (APM) 230 PDF, Visiting Appointments

The committee elected not to opine on this topic.

IX. New Business

Professor Williams Bradford informed the group that her campus was working with the UC-HBCU program and the UC-HSI program, and encouraged her colleagues to do the same.

X. Executive Session

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

The committee adjourned at 1:27 p.m.