



UNIVERSITY
OF CALIFORNIA Academic
Senate

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

I. **Approval of the Agenda and Minutes**

Action Taken: *The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 9-0-0.*

II. **Chair's Report**

Chair James Bisley

The Chair reported that UCAD had its last meetings. The first of those meetings involved considerable discussion around DEI visibility and the DEI footprint. UCAD decided it would put out a separate report on those issues. The main report is being finalized now so it can go to Council and then the campuses. He also attended a meeting on the academic calendar, which entailed the feedback from the campuses. He said there were thousands of responses and the feedback fell largely into two bodies: the change would be too costly and that now is not the time to undertake such a change. That feedback has been added to the report to be sent to the Provost and Senate chair.

Members had a few clarifying questions.

III. **Vice Chair's Report**

Vice Chair Partho Ghosh

The Vice Chair stated that CoGD featured discussion on holistic graduate admissions with the goal of being more equitable and inclusive. However, it is difficult to get faculty buy-in and the training required is not easy to implement. There was also some discussion about the arbitration with graduate students that is going on with the UAW.

Vice Chair Ghosh attended Council in lieu of the Chair. The situation with regard to international students is predicted to get worse or flatline. Students are being interviewed for visas, but the University is "slow walking" it because the federal administration is looking through students' social media for anything that could be construed as anti-American. UC has four external law firms on retainer. Separately, there are indications that the Regents have a resurging interest in online education; a task force headed up by Vice Chair Palazoglu and Vice Chair-Elect Scott will be taking this on. Former CCGA chair Andrea Kasko came to Council to discuss remote education and its related complexities. Changes to UC Health plan are coming, and premiums are set to increase.

Members had a few questions and there was discussion.

IV. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for a Master of Public Administration from the Irvine Division [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Wayne Steward

The Lead Reviewer reported that he received three reviews. Two of them were straightforward, but one was more complicated; however, it did not raise any serious concerns. UCPB had approved the proposal.

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

- B. Proposal for a Master of Applied Artificial Intelligence for Science from the Irvine Division [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Ilan Adler

The Lead Reviewer reported that the proposal is well-balanced and organized with reasonable tuition. The proposers have letter of support from the School of Science at Irvine and all of the chairs are in support. The three reviewers were very positive, with some minor suggestions. The UCPB letter was positive.

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

- C. Proposal to Add a Stand-Alone MA to the Existing MA/PhD in Study of Religion from the Davis Division
Lead Reviewer: Chad Saltikov

The Lead Reviewer explained that the proposal presents a minor revision of the PhD. He saw no substantive concerns, but has some recommendations regarding professional development/job placement.

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

- D. Proposal for a Dual Degree BS/MD from the Merced and San Francisco Divisions
Deferred Until October

- E. Proposal for an Online Master of Business Administration from the Riverside Division [SSGPDP]
Deferred Until October

- F. Proposal to Add an *En Route* MA to the PhD in Education from the Davis Division
Action Taken: Sutanu Sarkar was assigned as Lead Reviewer

V. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal to Disestablish the Labor Studies IDP and Establish a Department of Labor Studies from the Los Angeles Division

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

- B. Proposal for a Simple Name Change for the MA and PhD Programs in Psychological Science from the Irvine Division

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

VI. Remote Instruction for International Students

Committee members discussed this topic. While members did see this as a very important issue, they felt that input and counsel was needed from UC Legal. Members weighed in with how these situations are being handled at the division level.

VII. Principles for Awarding Degrees Posthumously

The Chair said that the Principles had not changed substantively since the last review.

Action Taken: The committee voted to send the Principles to Council 12-0-0.

VIII. New Business

Professors Abatzoglou and Stewart discussed the UCM/UCSF pathway that has been advertised on both campuses' websites. The committee discussed the difference between a "pathway" and a program, and agreed that a definition of a "pathway" would be helpful for the Handbook going forward.

Action Taken: The committee voted 10-0-2 to ask UCM and UCSF to amend the websites to say that the partnership at this point is a "pathway" and that a formal program proposal is in the works.

Professor See asked if there was a way to check on the representation by discipline on CCGA and/or request that the campuses exert effort to recruit more systemwide committee members from the social sciences and humanities.

IX. Executive Session

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.