UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, September 30, 2026

I. Approval of the Agenda
Action Taken: ***The agenda was approved as noticed, 11-0-0.***

II. Welcome and Introductions
The Chair welcomed members to the committee and had them introduce themselves.

III. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership
Susannah Scott, Academic Senate Chair
Amani Nuru-Jeter, Academic Senate Vice Chair

Academic Senate Chair Scott thanked the committee for its important work and noted that the committee Chair and Vice Chair have the full confidence of the Senate leadership.

The Chair announced that there would soon be a Senate newsletter summarizing current issues of note and discussion. She then went on to summarize events of interest to the committee and the faculty at-large. Vice Chair Nuru-Jeter contributed some points of information.

IV. Chair's Report
Chair Ele Grandi

Chair Grandi gave an update on the first Council meeting, including updates from Federal Government Relations (FGR), State Government Relations (SGR), and Regents. She also discussed committee actions from BOARS and UCEP.

V. Vice Chair's Report
Vice Chair Wayne Steward

The Vice Chair provided updates on the Council of Graduate Deans (CoGD) and federal actions.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

VI. Announcements from Academic Affairs

Todd Greenspan, Executive Advisor, Academic Planning and Policy
Carmen Corona, Director of Academic Planning and Policy
Courtney Wilson, Institutional Research and Planning Analyst

Director Corona discussed the University's response to the federal administration's revisions of accreditation standards.

Analyst Wilson gave an overview of the Five-Year Planning Perspectives, which will undergo an update this year.

Executive Advisor Greenspan noted that enrollment planning is finished. The University did not grow graduate students, but added 20K undergraduate students. There was 24 percent decline in academic doctoral students.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

VII. Campus Reports

Members provided updates on campus issues related to graduate education.

VIII. Orientation to CCGA

Chair Ele Grandi

- CCGA Overview
- Introduction to the Compendium and Handbook
- New Program Proposal Review Process
- SharePoint

The Chair walked members through a PowerPoint introducing them to CCGA process and methods. She and Analyst Harms answered questions.

IX. CSU Proposal Review Process and Assignment

Carmen Corona, Director of Academic Planning and Policy
Courtney Wilson, Institutional Research and Planning Analyst
Wayne Steward, CCGA Vice Chair

Director Corona and Analyst Wilson provided an overview of the CSU proposal review process, guidelines, and responsibilities.

***Action Taken:* The following Lead Reviewers were assigned:**

A. SDSU – DEng Civil Engineering – John Wawrzynek (UCB)
B. CSUSM – DBA Business Administration – Min Hwan Lee (UCM)
C. CSUSB – DPA Public Administration – Matt Potoski (UCSB)
D. SDSU – DSc Chemical Biotech Biopharm – Hyle Park (UCR)
E. CSULB – DTI Translation and Interpreting – Igor Mitrovic (UCSF)
F. CSULB – PsyD Health Service Psychology – Christyann Darwent (UCD)

X. New Program Proposals

A. Proposal for a 4+1 BS/MS in Data Science and Statistics from the Riverside Division
Lead Reviewer: Neil Gilbert

The Lead Reviewer reported that he had received three reviews which were all positive and supported the program. A few suggestions for improvements were made that did not involve any substantive change. He recommended approval.

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

B. Proposal for a Master of Instructional Design (MInD) from the Berkeley Division [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Sutanu Sarkar

The Lead Reviewer noted that he had received this proposal just before the June meeting. He was able to secure reviewers over the summer and got in touch with the proposers. Feedback was consistently positive, but one review raised substantial concerns related to online instruction. UCPB was fine with it. Questions about testing and online assessment are being taken back to the proposers, with further discussion anticipated at the November CCGA meeting.

C. Proposal for an Online MS in AI and Data Science from the Santa Cruz Division [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Hyle Park

The Lead Reviewer is working to secure one UC reviewer.

D. Proposal for a Doctorate Degree in the Science of Law (SJD) from the Davis Division
Action Taken: Wayne Steward was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

E. Proposal to establish a Nurse Anesthesia concentration within the existing Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program from the Irvine Division [SSGPDP]
Action Taken: Brent Fogel was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

F. Proposal to establish an Online Master of Engineering (M.Eng.) in Aerospace Engineering from the Davis Division [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Sutanu Sarkar

The Lead Reviewer is securing reviewers.

G. Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Applied Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Drug Discovery Development from the San Francisco Division
Action Taken: Dongwook Lee was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

H. RESUBMISSION: Proposal for an MA in Anthropology from the Santa Cruz Division
Action Taken: Emily Baum was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

XI. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances

A. Proposal for a Simple Name Change for the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Group to Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Graduate Group from the Merced Division
***Action Taken*: The proposal was approved 11-0-1.**

B. Proposal for a Simple Name Change for the Electrical Engineering Degree to Electrical and Computer Engineering from the Riverside Division
***Action Taken*: The proposal was approved 11-0-1.**

XII. Systemwide Information and Items Under Systemwide Review

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

B. Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to APM 560, Removal Expenses/General

C. Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy: Relocation Assistance Act Policy for Real Estate Acquisitions and Leases

D. Definition of Residency for Graduate Degrees

The Chair reviewed the history of this question and asked for volunteers to address the issue.

***Action Taken:* CCGA established a subgroup, led by Vice Chair Steward including members Igor Mitrovic, Matthew Potoski, and Dongwook Lee. The Chair, Vice Chair, and Analyst will work on a charge for the subgroup.**

E. New Business

Chair Grandi raised the issue of normative time to degree, which had been questioned by one of the divisions. It was decided that any such decisions should be initially reviewed at the campus to see if they rise to the level of a CCGA Substantive Change.

F. Executive Session

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.