

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

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

Action Taken: The agenda was approved as noticed 12-0-0. The minutes will be arriving under separate cover.

II. Chair's Report - Chair Amr El Abbadi

The Chair attended various meeting and there were a few things he thought were relevant. The President is very involved with the vaccine. He is hoping to get a task force together to get most of the faculty vaccinated by the fall quarter.

One issue that came up in multiple meetings is whether the University is preparing anything for graduating students. The employment market is poor. The Senate Vice Chair is trying to come up with something that would compensate faculty because the pressures related to COVID. He is thinking of providing sabbatical credit. The Chair asked if there is something similar that can be done for graduate students. There are students who are doing field research who are facing rough times.

The Chair also talked about the revisions to APM 210.1.d and about adding mentorship to the evaluation criteria. The committee discussed it and was largely in favor of the wording. He said he has not heard anything back from the Vice Provost or the Senate Chair and Vice Chair. The Vice Provost is sending it back to CCGA and UCAP. The feeling that adding the word mentorship is not enough. He said that they would ask the Senate leadership about the state of the proposed change when they joined the meeting.

III. Vice Chair's Report – Vice Chair Andrea Kasko

The Vice Chair discussed a security breach with Fireye and SolarWinds. It was a massive hack involving the entire US. Campuses are just starting to discuss how they have been impacted. UCLA chose Fireye back in 2016 and shared it with the other campuses. The penetration and testing tools were stolen from Fireye and the breach is going to be hard to address.

IV. Announcements from Academic Affairs

Theresa Maldonado, Vice President of Research and Innovation

Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies

Todd Greenspan, Director of Academic Planning

Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst

Vice President Maldonado said that since the last meeting the VCRs held their monthly meeting and met with the Cal ISIs (California Institutes of Science and Innovation). All four Cal ISIs presented last month and it was a very exciting meeting. They are doing research that really pushes the envelope in their fields. UC students participate in these, and their mentorship is really critical. She also mentioned the cyber security group and the ransom ware incident at UCSF. There was no access to the affected data for several months. The University had to pay \$1.2M to get access to it. The faculty are very concerned about additional administrative burden on their data, but hackers are trying to gain

access to UC networks on a daily basis. People are trying to get access to COVID-19 data. Federal agencies like the DOE and DOD need certification that UC can protect the data.

The Vice President added that the University is getting ready to launch the search for the director of the observatory and a director for the NRS. The NRS has an active advisory committee and the chair will oversee the search.

Executive Director Pamela Jennings discussed the Regents item that her office will be presenting on January 20. She said that the presentation highlights the role of mentoring in the support of students. It will look at some of the preparatory programs and the challenges of students succeeding. The session is slated for a half hour, however only five minutes is allotted for the presentation itself – the rest of the time is for questions. The presentation will include a student who has a “compelling background.” Separately, she added that the deadline for UCHSI is January 29th.

Analyst Chris Procello said that his office is working on two Regents items. For January, the topic is “The future of instruction: Designing equitable classrooms and technology-enhanced learning at the University of California.” For March it is “Outcomes & Equity: Redesigning curriculum to address equity gaps.”

Director Todd Greenspan said that there are 2500 more grad students this year over last year. He also discussed the issue of academic integrity that had come up and student use of sites like Chegg. CSU is looking to UC for direction on this front.

V. Council of Graduate Deans Report – Dean Quentin Williams

Dean Williams said that the graduate deans are in a very uncertain place in terms of graduate admissions. There is a lot of uncertainty with COVID-related phenomena, the economy, and the international situation. Competitors are curtailing admissions. However, when the economy goes down, graduate enrollment goes up. Separately, he added that the childcare reimbursement has been extended systemwide. He added that Berkeley, Santa Cruz, UCLA, and Davis have extended NRST waivers.

VI. Student Representative Report

Valeria Orue and Doreen Joseph

Student Representative Joseph said that the Davis general assembly meeting is next week and that student health concerns are still a work in progress.

Student Representative Orue said that UCGPC met with UCOP before break and is doing a systemwide committee on policing. Also the GSA is meeting next week and in February is going to be highlighting Black students and trans Black students.

VII. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Chair

Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Vice Chair

Senate Chair Gauvain said that the Feasibility Study Workgroup Report - about the decision not to use standardized tests - is on the President’s desk. In addition, the President is organizing a two-part symposia about campus safety. There is going to be a very comprehensive panel.

She remarked that she was informed at a meeting of the HCTF that the HR department at OP is being reorganized. There have been a lot of personnel losses over the past few years. OP is talking about having HR reps back on the campuses.

The Senate is continuing to work with the intersegmental senates on transfer.

The Senate Vice Chair said that there was a meeting of the GCLC right before curtailment and the green new deal proposed several things to the Council. There was change the language from “carbon neutrality” to “fossil free.”

Chair Gauvain said that the budget will not be in place until mid-May. The President will be meeting with the governor’s legislative aids about it. On a separate note, RASC has been overwhelmed. The Mercer consulting group is working to put the information together for the HR transition team. She and Vice Chair Horwitz have asked for Senate representation on the committee.

Chair El Abbadi raised the issue of the mentoring language suggested for APM 210. The Senate Chair said she would bring it up in her meeting with the Vice Provost this week. Chair El Abbadi also asked about the possibility of having a Regent come to CCGA. The Senate Chair said she was not sure if Regents came to committee meetings.

VIII. New Program Proposals

A. Proposal to establish a Master of Science in Health Informatics on the San Diego campus [SSGPDP]

- *Lead Reviewer Andrea Kasko*

The Lead Reviewer said that she finally got four reviews in. She emailed the proposers in December but have not heard back from them. UCPB reviewed it and there were no significant concerns. She added that there could be more work on the diversity plan.

B. Proposal to establish a Master of Science in Computational Social Science on the San Diego campus [SSGPDP]

- *Lead Reviewer Erith Jaffe-Berg*

The Lead Reviewer said that this proposal was discussed at length at the last meeting and the proposers gave a robust answer to the questions that were raised. The main questions had to do with the impact on the state-supported programs. The proposers said that they are providing additional TA support and an LPSOE.

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 10-0-1.

C. Proposal to establish an Online Master of Science in Drug Development and Product Management on the San Diego Campus [SSGPDP]

- *Lead Reviewer Arvind Rajaraman*

All the reviews are in. One reviewer felt that the proposers should increase the number of units. The committee discussed it and found the responses lacking in depth and there should be a renewed emphasis on quality and rigor. The Lead Reviewer will get back to the proposers and report back at the next meeting.

D. Proposal for a Terminal Master of Education in School Psychology on the Santa Barbara Campus - Lead Reviewer Hrant Hratchian

This is program to reinstate a program that had been canceled a couple of years ago. The proposers demonstrate a clear need for more professionals in this area. They speak about a need

for multi-lingual counselors. There is a question if the program will get the proposed enrollment numbers.

- E. Proposal for a Master of Quantum Science and Technology on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]

- *Lead Reviewer Partho Ghosh*

The Lead Reviewer has one review in and two promised; he is still searching for a fourth reviewer.

- F. Proposal for an MS in Genetic Counseling on the Davis Campus

- *Lead Reviewer Don Smith*

The Lead Reviewer is waiting to hear from potential reviewers.

- G. Proposal for a new MS in Robotics on the Riverside Campus

Action Taken: Candace Yano was appointed as Lead Reviewer.

- H. Proposal to establish a Joint Public Policy BA/MPP 5-Year Combined Degree Program on the Riverside Campus

The Chair said that this is the stitching together two existing programs and did not need CCGA review. The committee reviewed the materials and agreed. The Chair will let the campus know about the committee's decision.

- I. Proposal to establish a DNP-FNP on the Davis Campus

Action Taken: Tamara Afifi was appointed as Lead Reviewer.

IX. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal for a Simple Name Change from Geology to Earth and Planetary Sciences on the Davis Campus

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

- B. Proposal for a Simple Name Change from Chemistry and Chemical Biology to Chemistry and Biochemistry on the Merced Campus

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

X. SSGPDP Sub-Committee Update

The Vice Chair said that the sub-committee had an inaugural meeting on December 10 and it identified key areas of concern:

- Financial accounting at the 3 year review - what information should be included?
2) How are faculty compensated, especially in courses that enroll both SSP students and students in state-supported programs? Are TAs properly compensated in these mixed-enrollment courses?
- How can SSPs better account for costs to campus that are not typically included, such as classroom wear and tear, office equipment, staff time, etc.?
- How do we anticipate and prevent any negative reputational effects on the UCs as SSPs proliferate?
- How do we define success for SSPs? For example, is it purely financial, or can/do we look beyond the finances to determine the impact (positive) on state-supported programs?

The sub-committee has agreed to monthly one hour meetings.

XI. Dual and Joint Degrees Update

The Chair asked for feedback on the information he had emailed about dual and joint degrees. He said that the group had “dodged the question of the thesis.” There were some questions about normative time and funding models. Analyst Procello said that the approach was perfect and he was not sure how much more work needed to be done. Eventually this work will end up at the APC. Should it be sent to UCEP and UCPB for review?

XII. Discussion on impact of COVID on graduate students, and any actions CCGA can pursue.

Student Representative Orue said that there has been more of a need for counseling services. She said that the wellness liaison did something general at the beginning of the year but nothing specific about COVID. Student Representative Joseph said that the Davis campus had not seen anything specific. The member from Santa Cruz said that his campus’ graduate council reps are working with the GSA to get a sense of how COVID is impacting them. The San Francisco member said that at UCSF they have had meetings at the graduate council level. The Chair said he felt that there needed to be something specific that addresses the campus situations. COVID is causing a lot of stress for everyone.

XIII. Campus Reports

Berkeley - Nothing to report.

Davis - The campus has had a question to review the program review process because of COVID.

Irvine – Their committee hasn’t met yet. Everyone thinks that the way forward is to have SSGPDPs and they feel like CCGA is not receptive to them.

Los Angeles – There are proposals that might impact how UCLA handles their merit increases.

Merced – Nothing to report.

Riverside – Mental illness and health are big issues. There is a Blackness Unbound group that is meeting on campus. Grad council has been in communication over the holiday of grade dispute issues.

UCSD – The committee met in the middle of December to go over recommendations for grad division funding.

UCSF – The campus is down to 25 percent lab density; it is going to reassess on January 19 to see if it can go back up again.

UCSB – The member was not present.

UCSC – Nothing to report.

XIV. For Systemwide Review

A. New Presidential Policy on UC Research Data and Tangible Research Materials

The Chair said that members would probably get this in their graduate councils to discuss. He asked for comments by January 20.

The committee adjourned at 2:57.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Analyst.
Attest, Amr El Abbadi, CCGA Chair