

## COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

**Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

**I. Approval of the Agenda**

**Action Taken:** *The agenda was approved as noticed.*

**II. Welcome and Introductions - Chair Ramesh Balasubramaniam**

The Chair welcomed the committee members and thanked them for their service. Committee members introduced themselves. The Chair went over some of the topics that the committee would be working on in the year ahead, such as the discussion about incarcerated students, incorporating an evaluation of mentoring into faculty review, and promoting graduate education. Executive Director Pamela Jennings explained the recent change to the “housing” of Graduate Studies. This change dismayed many members.

**III. Vice Chair’s Report – Amr El Abbadi**

The Vice Chair has attended a meeting of the Council of Graduate Deans, where the awarding of posthumous degrees was discussed. He remarked that CCGA had discussed posthumous degrees last year and that it would be working on it again this year. Also discussed at the CoGD was the concept of a cohort-based tuition model which is being deliberated by the administration. While it is mainly being considered for undergraduate students, the graduate deans have been voicing their concern about how it would work at the graduate level. The Vice Chair also expressed his concern about the housing of Graduate Studies, which was brought up at the Senate Chair and Vice Chair Retreat he attended.

**IV. Proposal Review Process - Chair Ramesh Balasubramaniam**

The Chair instructed the committee about the process for proposal review. The proposal for the MS in Human Computer Interaction was discussed and used as an illustration for how the process works. Committee members were given an enclosure that went through the review process step-by-step. The Chair informed the committee that the Senate had decided that UC reviewers would get a \$500 stipend paid to their research accounts for a review completed in two weeks. This is a significant change (previously, UC reviewers were not compensated at all), and should result in reviews being easier to secure and faster to be returned.

Professor Streeter, who was reviewing the MS in Human Computer Interaction, told members to work closely with the CCGA Handbook in their review of proposals.

**V. Announcements from Academic Affairs**

*Todd Greenspan, Director of Academic Planning*

*Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies*

*Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst*

Director of Academic Planning Greenspan said that the University was asking the state for funding for 1000 new graduate students this year. The Regents have adopted a multi-year framework, which is something Academic Planning has been wanting for some time. The multi-year framework goes

until 2030, but the campuses have agreed only to forecast to four years (this is nevertheless an improvement). The campuses' estimated enrollment growth over that four-year period for graduate, professional, and other categories is about 6000 students; some of those will be in self-supporting programs, so they are not counted in the calculation for state fund requests. The Regents have a new chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and they have asked for a year-long set of topics for discussion; they want topics that are linked to the multi-year framework. There will be a Regents item that talks about the importance of graduate education and tries to set the stage for the state to support the 1000 student increase.

Analyst Procello reported that UC Irvine ran a pilot on its SSGPDPs; this is the first study that has been conducted on the self-supporting program model. He also provided a handout the proposal review process and handout of proposals that are approved or under review.

Executive Director Jennings talked about the launch of the UC/HSI Doctoral Diversity Initiative. This program aims to enhance faculty diversity and pathways to the professoriate for underrepresented students from California Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). It includes two components:

- Competitive grant awards to UC faculty/faculty administrators that support short-term and long-term programs/projects to enhance and expand pathways to the professoriate for underrepresented minorities, with a goal to increase faculty diversity and inclusion at UC.
- Funding to support graduate student preparation for the professoriate. Specifically, there are resources to help support a limited number of PhD students, who are California HSI alumni and have advanced to candidacy at UC, to foster their interest and preparation for the professoriate. Additional professional development outreach and support for underrepresented PhD students is also available to encourage and help equip them to consider careers in the professoriate.

## **VI. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership**

*Mary Gauvain, Academic Senate Vice Chair*

Senate Vice Chair Mary Gauvain introduced herself and said she would be giving the briefings in lieu of Chair Bhavnani, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Regents – The Regents want the Task Force on Standardized Testing to move faster than it has been; the Chair asked if its delegated authority to the Senate can be revoked. The committee discussed what can be done to help the Regents understand graduate education. The Regents are interested in undergraduate education and Extension (life-long learning). They are very committed to future workforce needs. They need to understand that this involves training graduate students who are familiar with technology. The University needs to give graduate training a face and a mission; it needs to stay mindful of ways to value graduate education for the Regents. The Regents are deeply concerned about student mental health; early adulthood is the peak time for adult mental health issues to manifest. There was an announcement at the Regents' meeting that this is the President's last year. The Senate is assembling an academic advisory committee for the presidential search. (A Senate member does not sit on the presidential search committee.) The Regents also discussed changes to the pension (an increase in employer contributions). They are also looking to see if employee contributions should be increased.

Systemwide – The admissions audit going on and in-house audits are taking place through Compliance and Ethics so that the University will have good data when the statewide audit happens. The Elsevier negotiations are still proceeding and will continue through the year. President is very supportive of the negotiating team. As of now, it appears that the campuses are not being greatly inconvenienced by being cut off from Elsevier.

Campuses – UC Merced’s chancellor search continues. The Air Quality Working Group of CA has the authority to close campuses if the air quality is not acceptable. The STT (Standardized Testing Taskforce) is working to compress its timeline. The Online Degrees Task Force may be looking at access to campus resources for online students, residency requirements, and quality control.

Faculty – Senate Chair Bhavnani is going to organize a task force on diversity; the initial focus is on faculty diversity. The Taskforce on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment has just begun to meet and will be meeting throughout the year. There is concern about the Faculty Equity Advisors and their role and activity on the campuses; it is very variable from location to location.

## VII. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal to establish a Master of Presentation Design at the Irvine Campus [SSGPDP] – *Lead Reviewer Hyle Park*

This proposal is still with the campus undergoing re-review.

- B. Proposal for a Master of Data Science in the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences on the Irvine campus [SSGPDP] – *Lead Reviewer LeRoy Westerling*

Two reviews from UC faculty both thought the core curriculum was solid. If the proposal is approved, the campus will have four computer science programs, two state-supported and two self-supported. Enrollment projections show that 15 percent of the students enrolled would be Californian students and 10 percent would be from elsewhere in the US; the remaining 75 percent would be international. Ninety-eight percent of the students in their existing SSGPDP are international. The state-supported program has declining enrollment and has half the enrollment of the SSGPDP. Thirty faculty are committed to the program. There is not a clear pathway to diversity goals being met. The reviewer comments will be sent to the campus so that they can have an opportunity to respond.

- C. Proposal for an MS in Human Computer Interaction on the Santa Cruz campus.  
- *Lead Reviewer Caroline Streeter*

This is a very straightforward proposal for a professional MS in Human Computer Interaction. It is a four-quarter program with optional summer internship. The proposal will require hiring an executive director of corporate outreach (who will also teach in the program) as well as a new ladder rank faculty member. Most comparable programs in the country are offered under the umbrella of computer science. The Lead Reviewer received three reviews and sent a letter to the proposers with areas of concern. The proposers responded adequately.

***Action Taken: The proposal was approved 11-0-1. The approval letter should underscore concerns about the financial aspects of the proposal and access.***

- D. Proposal to Convert the Existing MA in English to a Master of English on the Irvine campus [SSGPDP]  
- *Lead Reviewer Gina Dent*

This proposal is still under review.

- E. Proposal for a PhD in Global Studies in the School of Social Sciences on the Irvine campus.  
- *Lead Reviewer Carlee Arnett*

The Lead Reviewer has one outside review back and one internal review that was due yesterday but didn't come. She is working to secure other reviewers.

- F. Proposal to establish a Master of Applied Geospatial Information Systems and Technologies (Online) Graduate Program (MAGIST) on the Los Angeles campus [SSGPDP]  
- *Lead Reviewer – Amr El Abbadi*

This was a strong proposal. The campus already has a certificate in GIS which they are going to leverage. The proposal has a 10 percent return-to-aid will be used to promote diversity. There is a concern that diverse students might not have the resources for the class, so the proposers will make the software available on the cloud and will provide some resources for URM or people who are economically disadvantaged. The review from UCPB is not in yet. Once the review is in, CCGA will vote on the proposal.

- G. Pre-Proposal to Establish a School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences on the Irvine Campus  
*Lead Reviewer – Ramesh Balasubramaniam*

This proposal is under review.

- H. Proposal to establish a Graduate Academic Certificate in Family Caregiving on the Davis campus  
***Action Taken: Andrea Kasko was assigned as Lead Reviewer.***

### **VIII. Mentoring and Evaluations**

The Chair told the committee that last year it tried to add a section to the APM 210 on mentoring. CCGA sent that document to UCAP and received a memo back from them saying they liked the idea but felt it was too STEM-centric. The committee discussed the concept of mentoring and how it does not have to be for students alone, but can also be for other faculty, post docs, and undergraduates. There can also be a mentoring “network” where an individual would have multiple mentors.

The committee is asking the Chair of UCAP to the next meeting to discuss this topic fully.

### **IX. Promoting Graduate Education**

The chair said that there needs to be consistent messaging about the importance of graduate education and its importance to the research mission. Emily Rader, Research Strategy and Portfolio Manager, will be the committees’ administrative point of contact for the foreseeable future.

### **X. Other Topics to be Discussed This Year**

- GRE and Admissions Requirements
- Incarcerated Students
- Posthumous Degrees
- SSGPDPs

These topics were discussed briefly in the Chair’s opening remarks.

## **XI. Campus Updates**

UCR – PhD exams and conditional passes; currently the Senate does not approve them. However unofficially they do exist in some departments the campus would like to know what other campuses have such arrangements. The committee discussed this. Other concerns are student food insecurity and homelessness.

UCI – What are the English proficiency requirements for TAs at other campuses? UCI requires students to have a high TOEFL, but if you are a US citizen you are exempt from this requirement. A Doctor of Pharmacy proposal will be coming to CCGA. One-quarter of graduate students at UCI are in SSGPDPs. This raises resource issues (counseling, library, etc.). The Masters of Law and Masters of Engineering that were approved are starting concentrating programs beneath them that will not come to CCGA.

UCSC –Probably at least two proposals will come to CCGA. Graduate student welfare is a concern. Graduate studies is working hard to keep graduate education among the central issues on the campus. The campus is looking at increasing graduate numbers.

UCM – The campus has a budget model that will gradually increase the funding that goes to graduate groups over time. It will be a long time before UCM reaches parity with other campuses. UCM is revamping the course request and approval process; it is automating part of the syllabi to be handled by the Graduate Council every year. The campus is actively looking at issues surrounding changing of advisors. There has been a lot of disruption with students needing advisors. There is also an issue regarding a number of graduate students who went abroad and have been denied reentry to the US. UCM is looking at alternative models for more robust recruitment to graduate programs.

UCSD – The campus should have a proposal coming to CCGA: a 5year BA/MA and possibly an MS. There is an ongoing discussion about block grants and funding of students the first two years. An ad hoc group wants to come up with an online Masters program.

UCSF – The campus Grad Council has not met yet. Campus concerns include student welfare, mental health, and diversity.

UCSB – The first Grad Council meeting was Monday and was devoted to staffing the program review panels and an orientation for them. There is an issue of mentoring guidelines and best practices; the campus is trying to understand how to move forward.

UCB – The campus has discussed issues surrounding mentoring and about faculty getting credit in tenure and promotion for it. There has been conversation about pedagogy - training for students to teach. There has also been discussion about the School of Information program and the self-study it provided. Lastly, the campus is reviewing SSGPDPs and the concept of offloading of a platform to a private company.

UCLA – The campus has about 20 program reviews this year. The Masters of Engineering Online program is going to be reviewed. Issues of concern are graduate student welfare, mental health resources, and the cost of housing. Grad Council is working with the graduate division to discuss mentoring and possible certificates of mentoring.