

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

I. Approval of the Agenda

Action Taken *The agenda was approved.*

II. Chair's Report - Chair Amr El Abbadi

The Chair had members introduce themselves and talked about how the committee worked. He talked about program reviews and how they compose the lion's share of committee business. That said, the committee also needed to talk about items such as SSGPDPs, standardized testing (the GRE), and dual degree programs. It is also important that the committee think of ways to put graduate education on the radar of the legislature and the Regents. He said he did not know about how the committee will weigh in on social justice, but he would like to make it an important cause and see how CCGA can promote it.

He then went over the review process for lead reviewers.

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

The Vice Chair explained that she sits on the Council of Graduate Deans and a lot of energy over the summer was directed into international students and getting them paid. A lot of that has been sorted out. She said that she was not sure if paying students who are residing on foreign soil will continue. It's ok for fall, but the UC can't continue this indefinitely, so guidance may change for winter or spring.

She also discussed the strike issues. There was mediation over the summer at UCSC because the union filed an unfair labor practice charge. The charge was dropped and the 41 students were reinstated. There are internet restrictions for students working remotely from overseas. It is important to realize that students may not be able to have access to certain websites and information. Most campuses are participating in Grad Slam this year. It's not clear if there is going to be a systemwide event.

IV. Announcements from Academic Affairs

Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies

Todd Greenspan, Director of Academic Planning

Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst

Executive Director Pamela Jennings announced that her office launched last year for the first time the UCHSI DDI (<https://www.ucop.edu/graduate-studies/initiatives-outreach/uc-hsi-ddi.html>) and it just launched it again last week. It was a collaborative approach and was a long time coming. It is designed to focus on the pathways to the professoriate. Any UC campus can partner with an HSI for the initiative. It has a research component, where if you want to study something in particular, then you can apply for one of the smaller grants. There are the President's Pre-Professoriate Fellows – these are UC students who have already advanced to candidacy who are receiving focused support. The point is trying to encourage students from underrepresented groups to join the faculty. She also mentioned the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (<https://ppfp.ucop.edu/info/>) as part of

this wider effort to diversify the pathways to the professoriate. The UCHBCU program has seen great results. The goal is to enroll more Black students in our PhD programs.

Director Greenspan explained that he is on the academic planning side. He said that there is a lot of data and research available. His office focuses on program review, academic planning, and enrollment planning. President Drake is interested in Graduate program growth. The University has had an increase of almost 7500 graduate students over the past five years. However, there have been declines in the self-supporting programs that cater to international students.

Analyst Procello walked the committee through the two PDFs he had sent out the previous day. He explained that after the Senate has completed its approval, he prepares the approval memo for the Provost. He talked about the Compendium and how it is probably due for an update and discussed topics that would be considered for change.

Graduate Representative Oure said that the UC Graduate Professional Council has been meeting since the summer and asking about police reform and basic needs. The Council is trying to work with lobbyists this year to increase basic needs provisions and mental health provisions. There was a great basic needs report that came out over the summer and this report did a great job talking what it means to do not have secure housing or food. Every single campus hosted an event about police reform. The Council is thinking about setting up a systemwide survey so it can gather and collect data on police reform by campus. The Regents have had it on their agenda but it keeps getting pushed so hopefully this will help lend some information to their discussion when it comes about.

Council of Graduate Deans representative Quentin Williams remarked that every graduate dean is grappling with the issues that Todd Greenspan mentioned earlier in terms of the vast uncertainties associated with the incoming classes. The degree to which the current COVID crisis and international situation impacts the enrollments is concerning. There are deferrals and there is massive uncertainty with student enrollment moving forward.

UCI En-Route Masters Proposal

The committee discussed a previous proposal from UCI for a PhD in Language Science that was approved in 2019. The proposal initially included an en-route masters; the committee did not approve the en-route masters at that time. However, the committee re-reviewed it and agreed (11-0-1) to approve the en-route masters at this time.

V. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Chair

Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Vice Chair

Academic Council Chair Mary Gauvain thanked the members for serving on the committee. She said that she and the Vice Chair will come in to give updates on what is going on at the systemwide level.

The Regent's meet six times a year and they met in September. There was a report from UC Health about COVID related issues and also their strategic plan. There was also a report from the national laboratories. They talked about how they involved undergrads and graduate students. A good portion of the meeting was a discussion about the budget. She said that the committee could expect to hear more about it. There is a student basic needs committee and now they have had a report and it does include information about graduate students and basic needs.

There is also a lot of discussion systemwide about the budget and what might be some possible action. There are COVID discussions and what is going on with remote instruction. The campuses are operating quite differently in terms of opening up, and there are different layers of control to opening up research spaces. The Chair talked about the follow up this year to the ACT/SAT decision. Two committees have been set up to try to develop a new tests that would be focused on A-G requirements; there is a working group and a steering group. The aim is to have something to report to the Regents in their January meeting.

The Chair handed it over to the Vice Chair to talk about the climate crisis. He is from UCSD and they have done quite a bit of work in this area. The Vice Chair explained that last year there was a fair amount of effort put forward look at how campuses deal with their energy supply to move beyond carbon neutrality to decarbonization. There was also talk about how the crisis could be talked about at the educational and research levels as well. There was a campus crisis climate task force report that was full of action items and it was passed by the UCSD senate and was given to the chancellor and there is hope to put it in the senate's business in a permanent way.

The committee had some questions about the budget issues and the Chair responded that there is a draft set of recommendations that the President is looking at today that will be sent out for 30 day circulation soon.. She said that the administration is very interested in hearing the Senate's concerns. She also said that the Senate can point to issues that might otherwise be overlooked. There was also a question about Black Lives Matter and the Chair said that the President is very interested in this issue and that it is high on his list of concerns. The Regents are also concerned about the policing on the campuses. She said that the Senate will be very closely invested in this issue as it goes forward.

VI. 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 she has one reviewer scheduled and hopes to get more scheduled soon.
- 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 does not have any reviewers confirmed yet but is working on it.
- C. Proposal to establish an Online Master of Science in Drug Development and Product Management at UCSD
Action Taken: Arvind Rajaraman was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

VII. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal to transfer the Master of Advance Studies in Architecture-Based Enterprise Systems Engineering Program from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering to the Department of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering on the San Diego campus.
Action Taken: The transfer was approved 10-0-1.

- B. Proposal to transfer the Public Health graduate degree programs from the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health to the Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science on the San Diego campus
Action Taken: The transfer was approved 10-0-1.

- C. Proposal for a simple name change for the College of Natural Resources to the Gordon Rausser College of Natural Resources on the Berkeley campus.
Action Taken: The name change was approved 10-0-1.

VIII. Dual and Joint Degrees

The Chair explained that UCLA had a dual degree program proposal last year and that there was not much in the Handbook or the Compendium to help evaluate it. He said he would like to form a sub-committee to create some guidelines for dual degrees. A dual degree leads to two different degrees. The Vice Chair said that it UCLA has a dual degree program now and another one that is coming. WASC has some guidelines but the big concern for dual degrees is that no more than 25% percent of the credits be double counted. The curriculums are distinct. If the curriculums are not distinct, then it can be a joint degree. A lot of the dual degrees are with international programs and if you go back to the WASC guidelines, institutions looking to partner with international institutions they have to take steps to make sure that the partnering entity is appropriately licensed and approved. Analyst Procello noted that SR 726 has some language on dual degrees. Professor Smith said that his campus has put together some points to consider about dual degrees that he would be happy to share with the committee

IX. SSGPDP Task Force Check In

For the past two years, there has been a subcommittee formed between CCGA and UCPB to investigate SSGPDPs. Not much has taken place on it as of late because of COVID, but it plans to ramp up again. There is a lot of a lack of transparency about how the funds are being spent. The task force is collecting information; it is a good time to make expectations clear. COVID may financially break a lot of these programs because of the involvement of international students. The programs should be should be self-supporting by three years. Arvind Rajaraman joined the task force.

X. Campus Reports

Davis – The grad council hasn’t met yet this year. It is mainly concerned with graduate student issues related to COVID.

Irvine – The council is also concerned about COVID related issues. Last year the campus just conducted its first review of the SSGPDPs, so that will be on their agenda.

UCLA -The grad council hasn’t met this year, but will be concerned with COVID; the only graduate students who have access to campus are STEM students. This has a huge impact on programs. There will be an update from LA County in November for COVID restrictions and the campus hopes for some good news at that time. UCLA’s campus has new guidelines for SSGPDPs and now is looking at developing review guidelines for SSGPDPs.

UCM – COVID is a big concern but there are three big areas of work independent of it. Two new schools are being set up: The School of Management and School of Public Health. SSGPDPs is a topic of interest because they are not being set up to thrive. Enrollment

management at the graduate level is a major concern and how it intersects with budget planning. The faculty and staff at Merced are largely younger and so the childcare concerns related to COVID have a disproportionate effect on that campus. The campus has a brand new chancellor dealing and there are a lot of interim roles and undefined positions at this time.

UCR – The campus also have an interim provost that has been extended because of COVID. Students accruing S/U units are jeopardizing their standing in some departments because there are not credits given. With the shift away from GREs the grad council is receiving rubrics for approval.

UCSD – The grad council hasn't met yet but it has an online Master in Data Science that might be coming to CCGA. The campus is nominally at 25 percent which means that some grad students can go in. Beginning grad students are doing rotations.

UCSF –The campus is also dealing with lots of COVID issues. The campus is at 50 percent density at this point and students are doing rotations. There are some initiatives to help faculty with young children but very little action as of yet. Graduate student mental health is being discussed. There is a major emphasis on equity and inclusion efforts. The campus is also making sure that graduate programs don't take harassers and is deliberating how it deals with faculty who have been in violation of the faculty code of conduct.

UCSB – The campus is looking at degree emphases and trying to create some consistency across the emphases because they are dramatically different. It also has created mentoring guidelines. COLA was a huge issue for the campus last year – students were very angry. The campus extended time to degree by a year but that doesn't come with funding. Faculty are applying for a lot more grant funding and success in grant funding went up by 50 percent.

UCB – A lot has been going on with regard to making policies more flexible. There has also been a good effort to provide emergency funds – a big concern is managing admissions for the upcoming year because many of the students have deferred. The campus talked about a process for reviewing SSGPDPs internally – The campus launched a scholarship program for DACA students. It also launched a special GSI training program to better equip them to handle COVID in teaching. The campus is trying to match up families with others to better help with kids at home.

XI. For Systemwide Review

- A. Revisions to Senate Regulation 630 proposed by the University Committee on Educational Policy.
- B. Revisions to Senate Regulation 544 proposed by the University Committee on Educational Policy.
- C. The report of the Academic Council Online Undergraduate Degree Task Force

The committee will decide on these issues at the next meeting and will also talk about social justice and climate change

The committee adjourned at 2:12

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst
Attest: Amr El Abbadi, Chair