



COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

October 8, 2024

I. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved 12-0-0.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Partho Ghosh

The Chair welcomed members and had them introduce themselves.

III. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Ahmet Palazoglu, Academic Senate Chair

Susannah Scott, Academic Senate Vice Chair

Academic Senate Chair Palazoglu introduced the new Senate Vice Chair, Susannah Scott. He told the group that Council met for the first time on September 24, and important items were covered. President Milliken issued a statement to provide some details on where he stands on the matter of UCLA grant suspensions and the subsequent DOJ demands. UC is not going to release the so-called draft settlement proposal publicly. The Regents have been briefed on the ongoing discussions and planning, and the Senate leadership has been present at these briefings. The Senate Leadership has also been meeting with the President on a regular basis to share faculty's perspective and learn about his efforts and his thinking. The President said that UCOP is engaging in good-faith negotiations but has rejected both the financial demand and certain provisions that came with the settlement. He explained that alternatives, such as suing or refusing to negotiate, could have triggered severe consequences, as seen at other institutions, where billions in research funding were frozen, international student enrollment was restricted, and financial aid displaced under government control. The President talked more about the more recent news about incident reporting at Berkeley. The DOE Office of Civil Rights required UC to provide some information – originally it was redacted information, but the DOE said that was not sufficient. The OCR is looking into how Title VI complaints are addressed at Berkeley. President Milliken said that most universities facing similar demands have also complied with such requests. He acknowledged that UC could have communicated more effectively about the circumstances and rationale for producing these files. He is reviewing past practices to ensure stronger protections and clearer communication going forward, and he stressed his commitment to balancing legal obligations with protecting students, faculty, and staff.

In response to a question, President Milliken also said that additional information, including FAQs and some explanatory materials, would be released soon. He agreed that the faculty perspective on these would be valuable, and he pledged to find ways to incorporate faculty early in the process going forward.

Academic Council met with Deputy General Counsel Woodall about the Berkeley incident in executive session. While he could not share details, Senate Chair Palazoglu said that Council is working on statements for UCLA and UCB that stress the Senate's position on these events. Council also heard from Systemwide Academic Personnel about union issues. There are faculty on the negotiating team and there is also a faculty advisory body. There are ongoing discussions, and hopefully UC and the union are close to a settlement.

Council also heard from Systemwide Academic Personnel (SWAP) regarding labor issues. The contract negotiations with UAW started in July and two senate members are on the negotiating team. There is also a faculty advisory committee that is working with those members to make sure faculty's voice is incorporated in anything presented to UAW.

At the Regents' meeting, CFO Brostrom made a presentation on the budget noting that this is the last year of the governor's compact. Funds continue to be deferred, and uncertainty remains. Core funding per-student continues to decline. There is an increase in employer contributions to healthcare and UCRP. He also discussed the Tuition Stability Plan (cohort tuition plan). The University will now use the Higher Education Price Index (as opposed to California Consumer Price Index) as a basis for the cohorts to increase the tuition. OP is going to add a point to it to address continuing capital needs and buffer against inflation. It is also changing the 45 percent return-to-aid to 35 percent for that cohort to reach overall one-third return-to-aid goal.

Provost Newman introduced the Degree Plus program, which will be a pilot program at UCSB and UCSD. This program would allow undergraduates to earn UC Extension certificates along with their bachelor degrees. It is funded by a couple of foundations as well as some money from the President's Office. The plan is also to include an internship as well. The goal is to improve career readiness without significantly increasing time-to-degree. Each campus will enroll approximately 120 students annually. UCEP is reviewing it.

The UCAD (UC Adaptation to Disruption) taskforce published its interim report which had a number of recommendations. UCAD now is joining with a group of administrators to form UCADPlus. Provost Newman is very excited about this new structure to address implementation aspects of the interim report. These groups are expected to report back in January. UCADPlus also has a graduate-related subcommittee that will be looking at disruptions to graduate education. The goal is to come up with some ideas and guidance for campuses that respect autonomy but also build on inter-campus strengths. These are likely to come out in January or February and will be relevant to CCGA.

Another significant task force is the Performance of Undergraduate Degree Programs (PUDP). Senate Vice Chair Scott is co-chairing it. Vice Chair Scott explained that this is an important group for all the campuses and is intended to ensure quality in online

undergraduate programs. She noted that there are many infrastructure and training needs involved in this undertaking and that PUDP will be looking at them closely.

Provost Newman issued interim guidelines on discipline procedures that are now undergoing systemwide review. The report that the workgroup put together had two specific recommendations: a case management procedure and a piece that eliminated a multi-part investigation in favor of a single investigation. A workgroup has been convened to look at the interim guidelines; the group has two Senate representatives. UCPT is forming a workgroup to look at specific items: the APM revisions overall, Attachment B (with UCAF), and conforming bylaw changes (with UCRJ). The Senate leadership will be meeting with a group of Regents to inform them of the progress of the work. Chair Palazoglu emphasized that it is critical to ensure that Attachment B is acceptable to the faculty.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

IV. Chair's Report

Chair Partho Ghosh

Chair Ghosh reported that Senate Chair Palazoglu had covered much of what he had to discuss. He briefly discussed the ongoing labor negotiations and explained that there is ongoing mediation about graduate students being part of the union while they are rotating. He further outlined the role and intended function of UCAD Plus. The Chair noted that the future of international graduate education is under threat due to the limitations placed on F1 and J1 visas; OPT is also under threat. He announced that there will be an Early Career Research Excellence Award for junior faculty. There will be 60 awards of \$50K each, and each campus is guaranteed at least two awards.

V. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Ele Grandi

Vice Chair Grandi explained that she participates in the CoGD. Most the conversation at the meeting revolved around new proposals on the fixed-time admission for F and J visas. There might be a possibility for an extension, but it will need a renewed application. Responses and concerns are being collected. The other part of the meeting had to do with mediation with the UAW, which intersects with the Faculty Advisory Committee on Labor Relations on which she also sits. She reported that many people are working diligently on the issue of the graduate student negotiations.

VI. Council of Graduate Deans' Report

Dean Jean-Pierre Delplanque, UCD

Dean Delplanque reiterated that the CoGD spent a considerable part of its meeting discussing immigration status. The presumptive date by which there will be an outcome is the end of the calendar year; the comment period ended September 29. There was a consensus that there has been an overwhelming impact on students and faculty who come from other countries.

VII. Announcements from Academic Affairs

Pamela Jennings, Associate Vice Provost for Graduate Studies

Todd Greenspan, Executive Advisor, Academic Planning and Policy

Carmen Corona, Director of Academic Planning and Policy

Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst

Associate Vice Provost Jennings informed the group that her office has an RFP out for the HSI doctoral initiative; the deadline is December 1. The UC/HBCU initiative will be announced later. Her office has also launched a pilot program for UC LEADS which is an undergraduate program focused on STEM.

Analyst Procello shared his screen and went over the IRAP page on program review.

Director Corona told the group that the interim OPM is in place, and the California State Auditor's office has identified a gap. They also flagged that they want more robust guidance on incentivized recruitment. Her office is working with UC Legal to have a full policy in place by January 2026. Title Corona also shared information on the Provost's upcoming congress.

Executive Advisor Greenspan explained that his office is in the process of talking to the leadership on what is happening with UC enrollment. Undergraduate enrollment keeps exceeding planned UC growth. Graduate enrollment declined this year by approximately 487 students and PhDs declined by 680. If these numbers hold, graduate student numbers will have dropped 1600 over the past three years. He noted that campuses will need to be able to demonstrate student support.

Members had questions and there was discussion.

VIII. Orientation to CCGA

Chair Partho Ghosh

The Chair went over the proposal review process and answered questions.

IX. New CSU Proposal Review Process

Carmen Corona, Dir. of Academic Planning and Policy

Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst

Analyst Procello explained that CSU cannot send more than 10 programs, and UC has 120 days to review them. He reviewed the criteria and showed the proposal format. He noted that the question about duplication is the most important. If a program is duplicative, it might be cause for rejection. He said that Associate Vice Provost Jennings is working on a single website that will have all of the graduate programs, but for now the campus websites will need to be checked. The CoGD will also be looking at the programs. Dr. Procello explained that these programs will go from CCGA to Council for review and then to the Provost and President.

Members had considerable questions about unit conversion, CIP codes, and this process relative to UC programs that are under development. IRAP is looking at the California

Master Plan which stipulates that CSU is limited to the types of doctoral programs they are able to put forward.

Chair Ghosh informed the committee that these reviews need to be completed in a month and voted on at the November CCGA meeting. Members volunteered for the following programs:

- A. DTI in Translation and Interpreting from CSU Long Beach
Lead Reviewer: Dorota Dabrowska
- B. DSc in Applied Science of Human Experience from CSU San Diego
Lead Reviewer: Baolin Wu
- C. DSc in Chemical Biotechnology and Biopharmaceutical Sciences from CSU San Diego
Lead Reviewer: Hyle Park
- D. PsyD in Counseling Psychology and School Psychology from CSU San Diego
Lead Reviewer: Wayne Steward
- E. EdD in Educational Technology from CSU Fullerton
Lead Reviewer: Irene Beattie
- F. PsyD in Counseling Psychology from CSU Long Beach
Lead Reviewer: Neil Gilbert
- G. DEng in Systems Engineering from CSU San Jose
Lead Reviewer: Joe McFadden

X. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for a Dual Degree Program Leading to a BS and MD from the Merced and San Francisco Divisions
Action Taken: Chad Saltikov was assigned as Lead Reviewer.
- B. Proposal for an En Route MA to the PhD in Education from the Davis Divisions
Lead Reviewer: Sutanu Sarkar

The Lead Reviewer commented that this program is essentially an enroute BS/MA. The campus has sunsetted the original MS program and replaced it with this one. Almost all of the requirements have been kept, but they have added a new option, which is a PhD preliminary exam. There are no changes to the core unit requirements.

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

- C. Proposal for an Online Master of Business Administration (OMBA) from the Riverside Division [SSGPDP]
Action Taken: Wayne Steward was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

- D. Proposal for a 4+1 BS/MS in Biological Sciences from the Irvine Division

Action Taken: Chad Saltikov was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

- E. Proposal for an En Route MA in Criminology, Law and Society from the Irvine Division
Lead Reviewer: Irene Beattie

- F. Proposal for an Online Master of Engineering in Water Resources Engineering from the Davis Division [SSGPDP]

Action Taken: Neil Gilbert was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

- G. Proposal for an Online Master of Engineering in Sustainable Transportation from the Davis Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Dorota Dabrowska

- H. Proposal for an MS in Global Regulatory Science and Innovation (GRSI) from the San Francisco Division [SSGPDP]

Action Taken: Baolin Wu was assigned as Lead Reviewer

- I. Proposal for Online Masters of Engineering (M.Eng.) in Biomedical Engineering for Healthcare Technologies from the Davis Division [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Hyle Park

- J. Proposal for an MS and PhD in Life and Environmental Sciences from the Merced Division

Action Taken: Joe McFadden was assigned as Lead Reviewer.

XI. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal for a Simple Name Change for the Atmospheric Science Graduate Group from the Davis Division

Action Taken: The proposal was approved 9-0-2.

XII. Variance Requirement for SR 900 and 902

Chair Ghosh explained the variance related to Academic Notice for graduate students. He asked for volunteers to examine the question and report back to the committee.

Action Taken: Chad Saltikov and Irene Beattie volunteered to look at the variance request.

XIII. Campus Reports

Members reported on items related to graduate education from their campuses.

XIV. Systemwide Information and Items Under Systemwide Review

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

B. *Systemwide Senate Review of UCAD Interim Report*

Members discussed concerns related to the interim report and felt that it does not adequately address graduate issues. CCGA will write a letter in response to this review.

C. *Presidential Interim Policy for the University of California's Use of Online Program Management Companies*

Members discussed the interim policy and decided not to opine. However, language needs to be added to the CCGA Handbook to address issues such as review of OPM contracts, and contingency plans if the OPM goes out of business.

D. *Interim Systemwide Guidelines on Faculty Discipline and Revisions to APM - 015 and 016*

E. *Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Sustainable Practices*

F. *Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy IMT-1300 Information Technology Accessibility*

Committee members expressed concern related to ADA compliance, faculty training, and administrative support. CCGA will submit a response to this review.

G. *Systemwide Senate Review of Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 140*

H. *Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct*

I. *Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to the Academic Personnel Manual (APM) Section 036, General University Policy Regarding Academic Appointees/Employment*

XV. New Business

A. Proposal from the Council of Graduate Deans
JP Delplanque, CoGD

Dean Delplanque explained that this proposal was coming from COGD about 4+1 programs and how they are managed on various campuses in the system. The CoGD is requesting that CCGA allow double-counting of units and that it leave this decision to the local grad council authority. He discussed the arguments behind allowing double-counting, particularly with regard to access and time-to-degree. He said that the graduate deans met with AAU and that double-counting seems to be a more accepted standard.

Sutanu Sarkar and Hyle Park will look into the issue and bring it back to the committee for discussion.

XVI. Executive Session

No minutes are taken during Executive Session.

The committee adjourned at 2:53 p.m.