

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Action Taken: *The agenda was approved; the minutes were approved with some corrections.*

II. Chair's Report - Chair Karen Duderstadt

The Chair reported on SB 201 (unionization of graduate student researchers), which was discussed at both the CoGD and the Academic Council. She noted that it will affect all campuses. UCOP and the Academic Senate feel it is important to comply with the law. During this period of implementation. UAW is observing all faculty communication to students regarding participation in the enrollment. Faculty need to remain neutral. Both of the student representatives on the committee voiced reluctance to consult with their APIs or faculty advisors on this issue and expressed confusion as to where to go with questions about the proposed changes. Faculty also expressed confusion as to how to respond to student questions that might arise.

III. Vice Chair's Report – Vice Chair Onyebuchi Arah

The Vice Chair reported on the items that were discussed on the Provost's Budget call. This is the last year of the current funding framework and there is an expectation that there will be some increased revenues and expenses. The University is anticipating a 4% increase from the state, but is not sure what "strings" will be attached. There might be an increase in NRST, which could have an impact on enrollment. It is not likely that the campuses will be compensated for the proposed over-enrollment plan. The \$50M being withheld by the state from UCOP continues to be concerning, especially in terms of the freshman/transfer ratio. The University is hoping to demonstrate progress in other areas that will encourage the Governor release the withheld funds.

IV. Announcements from Academic Affairs

Art Ellis, Vice President of Research and Graduate Studies
Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies
Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst

Vice President Art Ellis noted that he had a chance to meet with graduate student representatives from UCSA and that they shared their concerns about mentoring and about diversity. He said that last year CCGA was very helpful in generating and sharing ideas about good mentoring practices and how they tie into promotion and tenure. Mr. Ellis has also been working on the CGS Survey: this is a national competition from the Council of Graduate Schools that is looking for campuses across the US that would try to provide a sharper picture of what the graduate experience is like and what students do after they graduate. UC put together a systemwide proposal and was one of the awardees. Executive Director of Graduate Studies Pamela Jennings said that the project will be polling the graduate students in spring of 2018. Alumni have already been polled, but there is no breakdown by campus yet.

President Napolitano had been in touch with the NIH Diversity Officer and she strongly supports the success of the UC HBCU and PFPF programs. The University has submitted a proposal for UC to organize a national conference in the middle of next year that would involve a conversation about the blocks and barriers to diversity. At a minimum, there are three issues to discuss: how to make a hiring more inclusive, how to shorten the time to scholarly independence, and how to change the cultures in

departments to be more supportive and expansive in scope.

Ms. Jennings told the committee that the UCHBCU RFP was sent out in October. Faculty are able to apply for grant funding; those who have participated in the past have been very pleased for the flexibility of the program. The program brings students to California and onto the campuses and engages them with UC's academic culture. UC faculty who participate need to form a partnership with an HBCU; this enriches the knowledge and information on both sides. In just five admission cycles, the program has had 42 PhDs enrollees. UC has already graduated one PhD fellow as the result of this initiative and has also graduated five Master's students. President Napolitano is very adamant about the continued success of the program. She has worked with the Chancellors to secure campus funding for faculty who participate. The deadline for application is March 15.

V. Discussion: SSGPDP, PDST, and Upcoming Proposals

- Chair Karen Duderstadt and Members

Chair Duderstadt proposed that it might be time for CCGA to check the status of previously-approved SSGPDP proposals. She asked the committee members if they thought three years was an adequate amount of time to get an accurate reading on their progress. She asked Academic Planning and Research Analyst Chris Procello to give the committee an overview of all SSGPDPs systemwide and any data related to them. Mr. Procello presented the committee with a comprehensive series of reports designed to add some context and depth to CCGA's information about SSGPDPs. The programs were initially meant for non-traditional students, but have grown in number as financial support from the state has declined. He provided a number of charts and spreadsheets that showed the growth of SSGPDPs, their prevalence on some campuses, the breakdown by race/ethnicity and gender in the programs, and the percentage of students who are international. Health and business programs make up about 50 percent of the programs, but the majority of SSPGDP enrollment is in business programs. Chair Duderstadt remarked that CCGA had held the line on quality for the SSGPDPs in spite of the rapid growth in proposal submission since 2011.

VI. Consultation with Academic Senate Leadership

Shane White, Academic Council Chair

Robert May, Academic Council Vice Chair

AB 97 requires the University to produce \$15M to support undergraduate enrollment; the University's response is due in a month. The Academic Senate wrote a letter to the President asking that the University's academic principles form the foundation for determining the sources of the money. UC's audit response is due in April and will likely come out right before the governor's May revise.

The retiree health process is going to be an informational item at the upcoming Regents meeting. The workforce that will be analyzing options will be convened in early January. The Senate has opined as to who it should include, what the charge should be, and that it needs to report directly to the President.

Yesterday was the first meeting of a task force to look broadly at transfer pathways. In addition, there will be a few subcommittees that will be working on different aspects of the transfer pathways process.

The President is taking a national lead on the status of DACA students and is collaborating with the community colleges and CSU to help undocumented students find the support they need, including assistance for students who are deported. Chair White said this would involve very complicated and

nuanced conversations.

In March, there will be a Regents item on the student code of conduct and what a suspension means. The Senate will be involved in these discussions. Can suspended students be allowed to advance academically while they are suspended? If a student is suspended but takes courses somewhere else, can s/he transfer them back to UC? Does suspension from one campus mean suspension from all?

Committee members raised several questions about the unionization of graduate students. The Vice Chair said that faculty cannot comment on the union issue; it might be grounds for a recount of the vote. Students should go to labor relations if they have questions.

VII. Proposals Carried Over from 2016-17

- A. Proposal for DNP on the Irvine Campus – *Lead Reviewer Karen Duderstadt*
This proposal was submitted in late spring. Two reviews have been posted and two more are expected. It is hoped that all the reviews will be completed by the December meeting.

VIII. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for a DNP on the Los Angeles Campus – *Lead Reviewer Karen Duderstadt*
This proposal and the Irvine proposal are similar in curriculum, faculty structure, and recruitment but they are going to be governed differently. One internal review in, and, overall, it is favorable.
- B. Proposal for a MS in Coastal Science and Policy on the Santa Cruz Campus
– *Lead Reviewer Teamrat Ghezzehei*
The lead reviewer was not present.
- C. Proposal for a Masters of Software Engineering on the Irvine Campus [SSGPDP]
– *Lead Reviewer Shahrokh Yadegari*
The lead reviewer gave an overview of the proposal and the reviews that were included with it. He will be soliciting internal and external reviewers in the next month. Concerns about diversity were raised and will be communicated with the proposers.
- D. Proposal for a MS in Serious Games on the Santa Cruz Campus {PDST}
– *Lead Reviewer Hyle Park*
The lead reviewer gave an overview of the proposal and expressed difficulty with finding reviewers for “serious games.” He has found one reviewer and is searching for more. The program is similar in some ways to the UCSC Games and Playable Media program, but with social and educational aspects. The proposal has strong letters of support from the campus and industry.
- E. Proposal for a MS/PhD in Statistical Sciences on the Santa Cruz Campus
– *Lead Reviewer Jon Wilkening*
The lead reviewer noted that there has been a sharp increase in demand for expertise in statistics. There is not much cost associated with starting this program. Internal and external reviewers will be sought over the next month.

- IX. CCGA Participation in the MRU Review for the UC Institute for Transportation Studies
Committee member Dyche Mullins (UCSF) will participate in the MRU review after the new year. Until that time, the Vice Chair will serve in his absence.

X. Updates from the Campuses

Campuses reported on any upcoming traditional, PDST, or SSGPDP proposals in their campus pipelines. Most campuses did not have anything coming in the short term. Those that did have proposals underway were unclear when they might be brought to CCGA.

The meeting adjourned 3:13 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst

Attest: Karen Duderstadt, Committee Chair