

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Action Taken: *The agenda was approved as noticed. The minutes were approved with some corrections, 11-0-0.*

II. Chair's Report

Chair Erith Jaffe-Berg

The Chair told the committee that CCGA was in need of graduate student representation and asked members to forward any recommendations they might have for representatives.

The Regents approved Katherine Newman as the new Provost. Chair Jaffe-Berg will be reaching out to the Senate leadership to see if CCGA may invite her to a committee meeting.

Five-year funding plans were discussed at APC. Some campuses have these in place, and they are helpful in recruiting graduate students. DEI efforts were also discussed. The pandemic has cost UC years of progress in this arena and has also resulted in a decrease in mentorship. APC will be discussing the P/NP grading policy as well accommodations for disabled students. The question of the impact on enrollment was discussed at length.

At Academic Council, Academic Senate Chair Cochran reported on the Regents' panel presentation on Regents' Policy 405, regarding affiliations with health care providers with faith-based restrictions on care. Council also discussed the University's climate efforts.

III. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Dean Tantillo

The Vice Chair attended the CoGD meeting and reported on discussions that took place. Much of the discussion was regarding the UC strike talks and their impact on students.

IV. Campus Reports

UCB – The graduate council has not met since the last CCGA meeting.

UCD – The graduate council had its first meeting. The main topic was policy on qualifying exams in light of the pandemic. The campus is focusing on its remote education policy.

UCI – The member reported that a professional degree program sent in a degree modification request and asked the graduate council to weaken or remove its GPA requirement. In this case, the GC found the arguments convincing, and granted that request. He asked how other campuses deal with such requests.

UCLA – The graduate council discussed students who do not have English as their first language. UCLA seems to be more strict in this area than any other campuses. The member asked if there is any evidence or data regarding problems with foreign applicants having problematic language concerns once they arrive. Secondly, the campus will have 24 department reviews next year and the campus is looking for ways to make this load manageable.

UCM – The campus has been developing a policy on four-plus-one Master’s degrees. And is reaching out to other campuses to learn about their policies for reviewing these types of programs. UCM is also discussing how much it has to allocate for fellowships, when to disburse the funds, and how to determine what kind of funds come back to support the research mission. The campus is also working to develop a new structure with its extension program.

UCR – The graduate council discussed the bargaining and the implications for mentoring. The campus has also had considerable discussions related to remote learning and the future of education.

UCSD – The campus has combined undergraduate/graduate program reviews and determined that the criteria used for an undergraduate studies review may not be the same as that used for a graduate studies review. The graduate council also discussed ARO (Achievement Relative to Opportunity) with respect to gaps in the opportunities for - and achievement of - students, particularly those from underrepresented minority groups.

UCSF – The campus is reviewing its bylaws and has decided that it needs a template for them to ensure that they are clearly written. The campus is also having listening sessions for all of the graduate programs to help determine how it can better advocate for them. UCSF has a program proposal that is being revised and will be resubmitted to CCGA.

UCSB – The member was not present for this portion of the meeting.

UCSC - The campus has a task force that is looking at the graduate funding model. The new model will be out later this fall or winter. The vision is to fund students entirely.

V. 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 Jennings said that her office had some good news regarding additional funding from the state that will support the Growing Our Own and UC LEADS programs. The office will also have some additional funds to support grants and will be able to increase the number of HSI fellows. The deadline for applications is the November 14. Members had questions for the Executive Director and there was discussion.

Analyst Procello shared that his office is very excited about the selection of the new Provost. The Five-Year Planning Perspectives have been submitted and health professions, engineering, and computational data science emerged as the most prominent disciplinary categories. Science is about ten percent of the total. Almost a quarter of the planned academic programs are either partially or fully online and eighty-six percent of the online programs are for graduate professional degree programs.

Director Greenspan said that the Regents have asked for an item in November about how cutting-edge research influences academic planning. He stated that academic planning isn’t centralized at OP; it emerges for faculty, which makes creation of an item somewhat problematic. However, his office and we decided that it would use two disciplines for the presentation: data science and climate science. His office is also in the process of receiving campus enrollment plans for 2023-24.

VI. Discussion with UC Online

Ellen Osmundson, Program Director, UC Online

The committee submitted questions in advance to Ms. Osmundson, which she addressed. She also gave a general overview of UC Online. Members had follow-up questions for Ms.

Osmundson and there was discussion of the future of online and hybrid education and how the University can stay competitive in the online environment without losing sight of UC quality. There was also discussion of synchronous versus asynchronous instruction. Ms. Osmundson brought up the need to hire additional TAs to handle the hundreds of students who can be enrolled in an online course as opposed to an in-person course. Also discussed was the addition of graduate courses to the UC Online portfolio.

Members engaged in further discussion after Ms. Osmundson had concluded her visit.

VII. Council of Graduate Deans' Report

Dean Jean-Pierre Delplanque

Dean Delplanque said that he had nothing to add; Vice Chair Tantillo had covered all of the pertinent issues from the CoGD meeting.

VIII. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Susan Cochran, Academic Senate Chair

Academic Senate Chair Cochran said that there is going to be a Regents' meeting later in the month and a Regents' retreat in which the Chancellors and the Regents have been asked to envision potential "moonshots" that that UC should undertake. At the upcoming Regents' meeting, the Senate is going to be presenting the results of the spring 2022 faculty survey to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. One of the findings of the study is that faculty are feeling disconnected from their home campuses. The report contains several recommendations to help address the erosion of connection that faculty are feeling.

The Regents' Health Services Committee met to focus on issues surrounding UC Health's contracts with affiliated health care groups. These affiliated health facilities are often located in rural parts of California, and they serve a very high proportion of patients. However, some of the affiliates have ethical and religious directives which place limits on women's reproductive health care and gender-affirming care. Regents Policy 405 states that contracts with these entities must ensure that UC values are upheld in these settings. It has been difficult for the Health Services Committee to get a clear understanding of what the issues might take place in the hospital setting, so Regent Pérez, who is the chair of the committee, asked the Senate to put together a faculty panel to brief the Regents on what transpires in the hospitals.

The Special Committee on Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship met and focused extensively on revisions to the University's patent policy. The current policy is many years old, and needs significant updating. The Senate is working with the creators of this policy to try and get clarification on how intellectual property is captured under the new patent policy and what remains under the copyright policy.

Academic Council met in person last week and discussed the conflict of commitment policy. The meeting also featured a visit from Chair Rich Leib and Regent Pérez. Chair Leib was curious as to the impact of not having the SATs. Council was also presented with UCPB's hiring report. One main finding is that there has been under hiring of faculty in relation to the number of administrators and professional staff that have been hired on the campuses.

Members had questions for Chair Cochran, and there was discussion.

IX. New Program Proposals

- A. Proposal for a PhD in Astronomy on the Riverside Campus

Lead Reviewer: Michael Scheibner –

The Lead Reviewer said that the proposal seems very straightforward. He has secured one reviewer and is working on getting others.

- B. Proposal for an MS in Computational Data Science on the Riverside Campus

Lead Reviewer: Candace Yano

The Lead Reviewer discussed the proposal. The proposers submitted the proposal with support letters from all of the UC campuses. Three reviewers were found and they felt that the program should add an ethics-related course and offer more in terms of electives. The proposal was very strong in the DEI area. The proposal was initially weak in terms of explaining the capstone project, but the proposers have added more material.

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

- C. Proposal to Convert the Master of Legal Studies from In-Person to Hybrid on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Andrew Fisher

The Lead Reviewer expressed concern that CCGA could be setting a precedent by approving this proposal as it stands. He said that there is a mismatch between how the program is described and what it is actually offering. The committee shared the hesitation of the Lead Reviewer and discussed the proposal at length. The Lead Reviewer said he would write a recommendation summarizing the committee's concerns and stipulations and would forward it to the committee for an email vote.

Update, 11/30/22: On November 15, 2022, [CCGA wrote the Provost](#) that it had conditionally approved the proposal via an email vote. The letter stipulated four conditions that must be met for the program to be approved. Following the receipt of the letter, the Provost's Office contacted CCGA and informed the committee that the it would not accept a conditional approval. The stipulations mentioned in the letter must be agreed to by the campus before CCGA's approval would be considered. Accordingly, [CCGA wrote the proposers](#) on November 17 explaining the Provost's refusal of a conditional approval and asking them to "address in writing the four conditions expressed above so that it can resubmit its letter of approval to the Provost's Office."

As of this date (11/30/22) no communication has been received from the proposers and the proposal is sitting in abeyance.

- D. Proposal for a College of Data Science and Society on the Berkeley Campus

Lead Reviewer: Andrei Goga

The Lead Reviewer has secured four reviewers.

- E. Proposal for a Master of Computational Social Sciences on the Berkeley Campus [SSGPDP]

Lead Reviewer: Jeffrey Schank

The Lead Reviewer has secured two external reviewers and is working on getting two internal reviewers. He has a few concerns about the proposal.

- F. Pre-Proposal for a School of Population and Public Health on the Irvine Campus

Lead Reviewer: Dean Tantillo

The Lead Reviewer is having difficulty finding reviewers.

- G. Proposal for a MA in Geographic Information Systems, Spatial Technologies, Applications, and Research on the Santa Cruz Campus
Lead Reviewer: Jennifer Smith
The Lead Reviewer was not present.
- H. Master of Data Science in Health on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Frithjof Kruggel
The Lead Reviewer has three confirmed reviewers and has received one review.
- I. Courtesy (Unofficial) Review: Gallo School of Management on the Merced Campus
Lead Reviewer: Andrew Fisher
The Lead Reviewer has one reviewer secured, one possibly secured, and two pending.
- J. Master of Advanced Study in Engineering on the Berkeley Campus [SSGPDP]
Lead Reviewer: Michelle O'Malley
The Lead Reviewer is working on securing reviews.
- K. Pre-Proposal for a School of Computing Information and Data Science on the San Diego Campus
Lead Reviewer: Paul Macey
The Lead Reviewer has secured one reviewer and is seeking others.
- L. Proposal for Divisional Status for Undergraduate Education on the Riverside Campus
Action Taken: This proposal was pulled by the Academic Senate. It does not need systemwide review.

X. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations, and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal to Disestablish the UCLA American Indian Studies Interdepartmental Degree Program and Establish an American Indian Studies Department
Action Taken: The proposal was approved 11-0-1.
- B. Proposal to Change the Name of the Master of Applied Statistics to Master of Applied Statistics and Data Science on the UCLA Campus
Action Taken: The committee felt that it needed more information from the campus. Upon receipt of the information, it will conduct an email vote.

XI. For Systemwide Review

- A. Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs
The committee decided to revisit this item in December.

XII. New Business

At a future meeting, the committee wants to discuss four-plus-one programs and the double-counting of units.

The committee adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Minutes taken by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst
Attest: Erith Jaffe-Berg, CCGA Chair