

## COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

**Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

**I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes**

**Action Taken:** The minutes were not ready as of meeting time. The agenda was approved with the addition of Dr. Sophie Richardson of Human Rights Watch, at 1PM.

**II. Chair's Report - Chair Ramesh Balasubramaniam**

There is a subcommittee now for studying SSGPDPs and the intent is to schedule a meeting of it this month. Chris Procello will be helping collect and analyze data. The subcommittee wants to give the campuses some idea of what to expect and also defend CCGAs process.

What should the role of the GRE in graduate admissions be? There is no University standard for the GRE. UCM is the only campus that has a GRE requirement at the campus level and the other campuses have it at the department level. Regent Chair John Perez made a comment saying he was done with standardized testing. The Berkeley chancellor and Provost Brown have also indicated they were done with the SAT, but this is an Academic Senate decision. The Senate Taskforce on Standardized Testing has not yet released its report. The University of Chicago has made the SAT optional.

A question has been raised as to whether non-Senate faculty can serve as advisors to graduate students. There are faculty who are affiliates but not Senate faculty and practicing clinicians who are not members of the Senate. Usually the deans of the graduate divisions do this by exception or when the co-advisor is a Senate member. The concern is to make sure that there is some review process for individuals serving in that capacity. CCGA is going to ask the COGD to collect this data.

Human Rights Watch made a very interesting presentation at the Council that concerns graduate education and academic freedom and they will be making a presentation to CCGA at 1pm.

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

Vice Chair El Abbadi had nothing to report.

**IV. Announcements from Academic Affairs**

*Todd Greenspan, Director of Academic Planning*

*Pamela Jennings, Executive Director of Graduate Studies*

*Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst*

Analyst Procello shared a report of a database that goes back to 1999 that tracks proposals that have come in; the number of proposals peaked in 2017-18. He went over the report in detail with the committee; it was discussed.

Director Greenspan said that the Provost is reviewing a draft of the Regents item that is going in the January on graduate education. His department is just getting fall enrollment figures; there was some increase in graduate numbers. Most of it was academic doctoral. UC is asking for funding for an additional 1000 graduate students from the state this year, which is part of what the Regents Item.

Executive Director Jennings talked about the need to highlight the value of graduate education and one of the items the Provost requested is any information or insight that help connect basic research with applied research. One thing that the deans did that they have not done in the past is met with the Student Regent - the topic was mentoring. A Regents' Item on mentoring may be upcoming.

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

*Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Academic Council Chair*

*Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Vice Chair*

Council Chair Bhavnani remarked that it is very important to keep talking to the Provost about where Graduate Education is going to be "housed." This is particularly important while talking with the Regents – Graduate Education will get lost if it is housed under Student Success.

The Academic Senate has an academic advisory committee for the Presidential Search Committee composed of 13 people. The committee is supposed to help with screening candidates. Previously, the chair of the Academic Advisory Committee sat in on the discussions of the Search Committee.

The Regents met in November and the budget was presented. From there it gets approved and the goes to governor, who releases it in January and then has changes at the May Revise. Last year governor Newsom line-itemed our budget, which means there was less allocation for core items. Employee contributions to pensions are not going to be increased until possibly July. Cohort tuitions which will come back as an action item in January. Campuses have been told to prepare as if cohort tuition will be introduced in 2020.

Vice Chair Gauvain is sitting on the Regents' Academic and Student Affairs Committee. How can the story of graduate education be told to the Regents? Right now, they are hearing primarily about undergraduate education. Maybe CCGA can have a way to communicate with them.

Chair Bhavnani said that there is a working group on comprehensive access which is an outgrowth of the Dignity Health fiasco. The new VP for health is looking at all the contracts for the medical centers; there is a desperate need to serve more people. UC's values in relation to this need to be spelled out clearly.

#### **VI. UCOLASC and UC Libraries Co-Sponsored Survey on the Impact of Discontinued Elsevier/ScienceDirect access**

*Dennis Ventry, UCOLASC Chair*

*Kristin Antelman, UCSB University Librarian*

This was an update to the alternative access materials since the University has been cut off from Elsevier. The CDL wants to do a survey to see how faculty are faring. It is a survey that will be open to UC faculty only. The committee asked questions and there was some discussion.

#### **VII. Sophie Richardson – Human Rights Watch (addition to the agenda)**

Dr. Richardson said that she is based in Washington, DC with Human Rights Watch (HRW) and has been the Human Rights Director to China since 2006. She said she is now looking at violations in America from the Chinese government. The Chinese have had a long-term interest in surveilling students and scholars all over the world and have become more aggressive about it. They have put in other limits to suppress campus speech: censorship and self-censorship. HRW did about 150 interviews of students, scholars, administrators and published a code of conduct that it is are hoping schools will adopt to protect a community that they think is vulnerable. HRW got back a letter from UC and it was disturbing to us to see that it would not really engage. HRW is hoping that some of the people in the UC system are willing to take this

up. The committee discussed this and decided to bring the Chair of UCAF to the next meeting to deliberate.

### VIII. Dual Degree Programs

*Don Smith – UCSC Committee Member*

Professor Smith explained that there are very few dual degree programs in the UC system. Dual degree programs exist when an existing degree at UC partners with an external institution. A student who matriculated in to the dual degree pathway would earn two graduate degrees. Very little guidance for these types of proposals exists. WASC has some policies on dual degree programs, but those guidelines are very minimal. Professor Kasko noted that UCLA would likely have a dual degree proposal coming from its business school with Peking University. She said that one of the things that they paid close attention to was the controlling of admissions and how the admissions processes would be handled. There were a lot of questions about how open and accessible this would be to students in California and whether there would be open and fair access and equal accessibility in the program. UCLA had to push for separate admissions policies at each university. The committee discussed the concept. Also clarified was the issue of Joint versus Dual Degree – one has two degrees offered, the other just has one degree offered. The committee asked if explicit language should be added to the Handbook for these degree proposals with a memo to the graduate councils. Chair Balasubramaniam and Professor Smith will discuss this.

### IX. New Program Proposals

- A. 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*  
**Action Taken: The proposal was approved 9-0-1.**
- B. Proposal to Convert the Existing MA in English to a Master of English on the Irvine campus [SSGPDP]  
– *Lead Reviewer Gina Dent and Donald Smith*  
This is a proposal to convert a state-supported English program to self-supporting. The program has – in essence – been operating as self-supporting; this would just be formalizing it. The program has nine courses and the cost will go from \$9,600 to \$27,300. UCPB reviewed it and had concerns about return-to-aid.  
**Action Taken: The proposal was approved 6-1-3.**
- C. Proposal to Establish a Graduate Academic Certificate in Family Caregiving on the Davis campus.  
*Lead Reviewer Andrea Kasko*  
Professor Kasko said that her analysis led to the understanding that there are different kind of certificate programs and this kind would not bear the official seal of UC. After evaluating proposal, it was determined that it only needed to be reviewed at the campus level. The committee voted unanimously to communicate with the campus that they will only need to do campus review for this certificate.
- D. Proposal for an M.S. in Cognitive and Information Sciences from the Merced Campus  
**Action Taken: Divyakant Agrawal will serve as the Lead Reviewer.**

**X. Discussion about the GRE**

Committee members shared their campus experiences and thoughts about the efficacy of using GREs. Many departments had voted not to use the GREs and students were getting mixed messages. There was also discussion about holistic review, the factors that go into it, and if it, too, can be considered biased. The committee will discuss it more fully at the next meeting with perhaps some input from external experts.

The meeting adjourned 2:47.

The meeting in January 2020 will be held via Zoom.