

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Action Requested: *The agenda was approved as noticed 7-0-0.*

II. Chair's Report - Chair Amr El Abbadi

The Chair said that UCOP sent out a letter about the curtailment, it is left to the campuses to decide what to do. Separately, the Vice Provost turned back the APM 210 revisions that CCGA and UCAP had suggested after discussions with the Academic Senate Chair and Vice Chair.

Regent Kieffer came to the Council meeting; he seems very interested in the graduate mission. Executive Director Pamela Jennings said that her office has scheduled a Regents' item for the January meeting that will be focused on graduate education. Another issue that came up at Council there was a presentation about health science issues and low faculty morale. There was also the issue about policing and the renegotiation of the campus police contract. The Senate is not part of the negotiation. Policing is important for graduate students.

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

The Vice Chair reported that most of her activity was in meetings with the CoGD and a planning meeting with Provost Brown for a meeting with President Drake to talk about graduate education. It was a fruitful and productive conversation. The main issues that were discussed were advocacy for graduate education, the impact of graduate housing, the ability of UC to recruit graduate students, and some discussion about tuition issues.

IV. Announcements from Academic Affairs

Theresa Maldonado, Vice President of Research and Innovation

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 President Drake is open to ideas and solutions facing the University. There have been some conversations about “growing our own” in terms of considering undergraduates and being more impactful around diversity. She said she would have information to share regarding that for the next meeting. She shared that her office is working on having a Regents' item in January. She said that the item will touch on the aspect of mentoring; that is something that Regent Anguiano has strong feelings about. She remarked that she shared with members individually about the UCHBCU on their campuses. Her office has just awarded grants for the UCHSI. Every campus has a snapshot of the programs and their impact. Separately, there are a lot of challenges with the international students. The federal government team has been very helpful and have been pushing back on some of these issues.

Vice President Maldonado said that the VCRs and the national labs have been working very hard on developing research ramp up plans – the plans also include guidelines that have been very carefully crafted to ensure that everyone remains safe. There was an internal audit and the University was presented with a matrix of recommendations from the Office of Compliance and

Audit. Another issue that is requiring a lot of time is cyber security. There is a working group on how UC manages cyber security at the campuses. It included the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Academic Senate. The third item is artificial intelligence and the Vice President is on that working group as well. There is incredible expertise from different angles. There are questions around the ethics of AI. This is going to be a new learning experience for faculty and for graduate students. Another conversation was about how the University does interdisciplinary multi-campus research. There is going to be a conversation about how these large scale research efforts are managed effectively across the system. What are the expectations, and how can an individual faculty member get credit for participating in these activities. The VCRs are coming together with the national labs to have the conversation about how the University can best move forward with the MRUs. Finally, there was a discussion about the research ramp-up and diversity.

There were questions and discussion from the committee.

Analyst Procello said that all of the campuses have submitted their five-year planning perspectives for the 2020-2025 cycle and he is beginning to dig into that data. There are five proposals for schools/colleges planned which will involve a pre-proposal and then a full proposal. Every two years the Provost solicits planning perspectives. At the last Regents' meeting there was a discussion about how each campus is dealing with 21st century skills. Mr. Procello's office created a table that asked freshmen what their learning was on a couple of these dimensions. It was broken down and the results are interesting. He said it would be helpful to do a similar study for graduate students.

Director Greenspan Todd said that his office had a UCOP enrollment work group it has received campus plans for 2021-22 enrollments. The graduate student numbers this year held in part because there are more continuing students. There is still proposed graduate student growth for next year.

V. Council of Graduate Deans Report – Dean *Quentin Williams*

Dean Williams followed up on the Vice Chair's report and said that the graduate deans had a consultation with President Drake and Provost Brown. He noted that President Drake has a long history with UC and is well-versed in graduate issues. He is very conversant the things that were emphasized and how the University can communicate with Sacramento. There is a lot of discussion around what campuses can do. There is a general sense that UC would like a more coherent focus from government relations in highlighting graduate education. There was a discussion of graduate student housing and whether there is the prospect of a systemwide response to that problem. President Drake is very aware of the role of public/private partnerships in developing major housing projects. He is also very aware of the differences between campuses.

The other question has to do with graduate tuition. Underpinning that is the long-term trajectory of the expense of graduate students. There is a major limitation on graduate growth. The cyclic nature of graduate tuition is so embedded within the fiscal model of each campus that the first step is getting a recognition that this is a structure that UC has developed over time. President Drake and Provost Brown recognize it as an issue. Addressing it will require a lot of effort for a long time.

VI. Student Representative Report

Valeria Orue and Doreen Joseph

Student Representative Orue said that the Riverside union has filed a grievance against the campus because the housing is not sanitary. She also said that about two weeks ago a friend passed away from suicide; graduate life is very difficult. Students are working on diversity and equity initiative on the Riverside campus.

Student Representative Joseph said that the big issues on the Davis campus are mental health and student finances. There is only one psychologist for graduate students. Finances are also a problem and TAs do not receive their first payment until November. With the pandemic the professors are assigning more work, and a lot of that grading is falling on the TAs.

VII. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership

Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Chair

Robert Horwitz, Academic Council Vice Chair

The Chair explained that she would be having the Vice Chair give the update because she was unable to attend the Regents and Council meetings. She said that she was very interested in hearing CCGA's review of the SSGPDPs and was also interested in the committee's comments on the ILTI report.

The Vice Chair remarked that the Regents talked about transfer from community colleges. The majority of community college students intend to transfer to UC or CSU. However, the alignment of courses is always a difficulty and the UC gets labeled as obstructionist. He noted that UC is pretty much at its 2:1 ratio for transfer students and there is no more room at UC. He and the Chair need to discuss this with the Regents. There was a meeting on financial aid and President Drake brought an idea from his previous presidency that he is drafting as the road to a debt-free UC. The idea is to try to get students to graduate without significant debt. That entails expanding work opportunities on campus and keeping work between 15-20 hours a week.

There was a presentation by Native American and Alaskan Native students - the percentage of those students attending UC is very low. There was discussion of specialized support services for them. There was a similar session with disabled students and it was stated that UC has been too slow to realize the aims of the Americans with Disabilities Act. There has been a committee on basic needs and the Regents are very supportive of money toward food pantries and making it easier for students to afford housing. The 2021-22 budget was presented and approved. The proposal to protect the retirement plan from any cuts caused by the curtailment was also presented and approved. The Chair and Vice Chair were invited to the President's Global Climate Leadership Council and there was a substantive discussion as to whether carbon offsets were a "shell game."

UCAP and CCGA were part of the effort to change the APM to reflect contributions through mentorship. Susan Carlson thought that change was not going to "wash." A definition needed to be made of mentorship and more specification was needed on what entails good mentorship. The Vice Provost is going to draft a memo and send it to the two committees. The CCGA Chair said that a previous draft that had more specific examples of mentoring had been ill-received. The language that was sent to the Vice Provost reflected a hard-earned compromise. He said that once the letter from the Vice Provost was received he would like to have a meeting with the Vice Provost, the Academic Senate Chair and Vice Chair and the chair of UCAP. This will be a continuing conversation.

The Chair asked if CCGA could have a Regent to come to meet with them. Chair Gauvain suggested that Regents Estolano or Butler might be good choices. She said that Senate Executive Director Baxter should be consulted.

VIII. 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 that the committee should be able to vote at the next meeting. There were no major concerns from UCPB.
- 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 received two reports back and they were largely favorable. She is still waiting on two other reviewers. The curriculum is really well thought through. One of the benefits is significant return to aid. UCPB asked if there would be enough support for the internships. The Chair noted that the capstone question was a little bit vague. The Lead Reviewer will get back to the proposers with questions.
- C. Proposal to establish an Online Master of Science in Drug Development and Product Management on the San Diego Campus [SSGPDP]
- *Lead Reviewer Arvind Rajaraman*
The Lead Reviewer said he has received four reviews but they are much more negative than he thought they would be. Is a self-supporting program now and the campus is trying to move it online. The reviewers say that the academic rigor is not great; it appears more suitable for a certificate program. It is recommended that the program do a review before it is transitioned to online and that CCGA see the review. Wait to hear back from proposer.
- D. Proposal for a Terminal Master of Education in School Psychology on the Santa Barbara Campus
Action Taken: *Hrant Hratchian was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*
- E. Proposal for a Master of Quantum Science and Technology on the Los Angeles Campus [SSGPDP]
Action Taken: *Partho Ghosh was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*
- F. Proposal for an MS in Genetic Counseling on the Davis Campus
Action Taken: *Donald Smith was assigned as Lead Reviewer.*

IX. Transfers, Name Changes, Consolidations and Discontinuances

- A. Proposal for a Name Change from the Master of Applied Economics to the Master of Quantitative Economics on the Los Angeles Campus
Action Taken: *The proposal was approved 10-0-2.*

X. Openness in Research Policy

- *Select a Volunteer for the Committee*
Candace Yano was selected as the volunteer for the review committee.

XI. Dual and Joint Degrees Update

The Chair remarked that the complexity of the issues and challenges is significant. CCGA is not the only stakeholder and if changes are made to the Compendium, they need to go to the

Academic Planning Council. Analyst Procello said that it would also be a good idea to run by the committees on Planning and Budget and Educational Policy before taking it to APC. The review should be split between professional degrees and academic degrees. CCGA could start by figuring out dual professional degrees and then move onto the dual academic. The Chair said that the committee would focus on dual professional degree and that he would work with the sub-committee then bring it to CCGA, UCPB, and UCEP before taking it to Academic Council.

XII. Social Justice

The Chair asked if members had read the Academic Planning Council Graduate Education Workgroup Report. He said that it raised a lot of issues that the committee is discussing and it showed that graduate education needs to be a lot more student-centric. He said that he also found what Ms. Jennings shared about how the fellowships are distributed across the campuses to be helpful. He asked the committee how it would like to proceed. This issue ties in closely with the conversations about mentorship that the committee has been having and good mentorship needs to be incentivized. He asked if any of the campuses have Individual Development Plans. He also asked if data/surveys are collected on the graduate students. Mr. Procello said there was a PhD survey done recently on learning outcomes.

XIII. Campus Reports

Berkeley – Nothing to report.

Davis – There will be a proposal for a Nursing program coming to CCGA.

Irvine – Nothing to report.

Los Angeles – Grad Council has been looking at how it reviews SSGPDPs. Should they be separated from the regular review process? How do they address diversity?

Merced – The campus has some enrollment management issues. It will be having a couple of schools come up to CCGA over the next couple of years.

Riverside – The campus has a new provost. The Grad Council is dealing with a document on SSGPDPs; it has been taking cues from UCLA, UCSD, and UCD to make sure there is return to aid.

UCSF – The campus is discussing how to deal with faculty members who have violated the code of conduct. It is getting input from students and Title IX office. IT is more of a problem in the clinical setting.

Santa Barbara – The curtailment got a lot of negative pushback and the UCSB chancellor has decided not to do it. The campus has been having a lot of challenges with undergraduate enrollment and impacted departments; graduate students end up being TAs longer than they should and grade more than they should.

Santa Cruz – The campus has been engaging the GSAs to explore the impact that COVID is having on the grad students' mental health and financial well-being. There is a large working group on revenue analysis of graduate studies. The campus also set up a five-year guarantee for graduate student funding.

XIV. For Systemwide Review

A. Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI) Review with Update

- *Given that ILTI courses often have been developed in coordination with individual faculty rather than with campus departments, how can ILTI develop a more appropriate and effective partnership with campuses such that it positively impacts the core teaching mission of the University?*
- *What is the potential role and impact of ILTI on the core teaching mission of the University?*
- *What can the systemwide ILTI program best provide for the campuses: instructional design guidance, best online teaching practices, multicampus instructional innovations, cross-campus enrollment through the CCES platform? Other?*
- *What kinds of systemwide courses should be created and how should their utility in achieving the UC teaching mission be assessed?*
- *What should the ILTI governing structure be?*

The Chair said that this reflects an emphasis on online education with more money spent on the campuses. The committee should focus on the questions from a graduate point of view. How can this initiative really help graduate education? How can ILTI affect the core teaching mission? What kind of systemwide courses should be promoted? He asked if committee members had interacted with ILTI as individuals. Members discussed it and said they wanted to be thoughtful about how it went into online ILTI instruction. They asked how feedback can be provided to the system as it discusses the post-COVID learning environment. The Chair said that the committee could discuss it in January. He encouraged members to generate some concrete proposals.

B. Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 336.F.8 - Evidentiary Standard

The problem with P&T proceedings is determining the evidentiary standard. There is “clear and convincing” and “preponderance of the evidence.” With preponderance of the evidence, the probability is just over 50% where clear and convincing is much higher than that. The Chair said that the issue would probably come to the campus committees. He asked that members send an email to him if they wanted to comment.

The committee adjourned 3:11.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Analyst.
Attest, Amr El Abbadi, CCGA Chair