

COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS

Minutes of Meeting**Tuesday, April 7, 2009****10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.****UCOP, 1111 Franklin Street, Oakland – Room 5320****Telephone: 510-987-9466 Fax: 510-763-0309**<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/>**I. Chair's Report/Announcements – Chair Farid Chehab**

- March 25 Academic Council Update
 - The Regents approved the proposed UC Davis School of Nursing; the campus will provide the President with a long-term financial and programmatic contingency plan for the School.
 - The Regents also approved a Senior Management Group salary freeze. They will consider a 9.3% increase in undergraduate fees at their May meeting.
 - The president has decided not to outsource UCRP benefits administration.
 - A new TF chaired by Dan Simmons/Judy Sakaki is looking at how to honor WWII internees whose studies were interrupted at UC.
 - The President has convened a Creative Budget Strategies Task Force to look at creative ways to address budget shortfall including development of a Systemwide policy that includes furloughs and salary reductions to all faculty and staff; and strategies for absorbing the next \$2-3M in cuts. A CCGA member suggested that it might be worthwhile to revisit the issue and originating policies guiding indirect costs as way to address increasing challenge of meeting infrastructure costs; breakdown of what academic v. professional graduate students pay and how federal indirect costs are allocated and guiding principles.
 - The annual joint Council/EVC meeting in April will focus on Postdoc/TA labor contracts.
 - Council discussed at length a proposed policy to guide dis/establishment of MRUs and the Senate's oversight role (there are about 55 MRUs Systemwide).
 - Council considered a proposed centrally-funded research computing project and endorsed the UCCC recommendations.
 - Council endorsed the revisions to the *In Absentia* Registration Policy put forward by CCGA.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the March 3, 2009 Meeting
- B. Approval of the Agenda

ACTION: The agenda and minutes were approved with minor modifications.**III. Announcements from the President's Office, Academic Affairs, Academic Council –**

Todd Greenspan, Academic Planning, Programs and Coordination
Hilary Baxter, Academic Planning, Programs and Coordination
Suzanne Klausner, Strategic Planning, Programs and Accountability
Mary Croughan, Academic Council Chair

(H. Baxter)

- Hilary Baxter announced that she will be taking over some of Carol Copperud's responsibilities; Carol is retiring in June.

- She shared a handout on the WASC policy formulation of categories of degree-level approval of new degree programs on the campuses. Members questioned the timing and impetus of the policy and the implications for UC.

(T. Greenspan)

- Todd Greenspan noted that he is attending in Dan Greenstein’s stead; he briefly described some of the initiatives emanating from the ongoing Academic Affairs restructuring.
- He will be convening the Joint Graduate Board (of which Chair Chehab is a member).

(M. Croughan)

- Mary Croughan noted a forthcoming Standing Order from The Regents to provide policies and procedures for implementing layoffs, salary reductions, and furloughs for all employees (including faculty) and develop criteria for declaring exigent circumstances that could trigger above actions.

IV. Proposed Policy on Part-Time Self-Supporting Graduate/ Professional Degree Programs – Chair Chehab and Ami Zusman, Academic Planning, Programs and Coordination

ISSUE: In January, CCGA agreed to form a subcommittee with the modified charge of producing a document limited in scope to serve as a starting point for the Senate’s future consideration of the larger UC policy implications associated with Part-Time Self-Supporting Graduate/Professional Degree Programs. Questions and issues that were discussed at the meeting included:

- 1) Is the oversight process for the establishment and review of self-supporting programs clear, and does it continue to be appropriate?
- 2) What is UC’s commitment to providing financial support to students in self-supporting programs?
- 3) What is the impact of an expansion of SSPs on UC as a public institution?
- 4) What relationships should be developed with UC Extension, which currently administers nine SSPs at three campuses?

DISCUSSION:

- Ami Zusman noted that CCGA’s review of SSPs is not all-inclusive as there are programs that customarily would not come before CCGA, e.g., UC Extension programs. Members discussed the instances where new self-supporting or state-funded programs are not subject to CCGA review, e.g., a new program that appears similar or identical to an existing program. Members also questioned the circumstances under which CCGA might wish to insert itself in the review process following the usual review by local Graduate Council, e.g., resource concerns, adverse impact on state-funded programs.
- Chair Chehab suggested that SSPs should follow the same review timelines, processes for external review of graduate programs in accordance with local campus procedures.
- Members discussed issues associated with financial support for students enrolled in SSPs. Ami Zusman noted instances where the fee structure for differential fee state-supported programs and SSPs have converged and that the UCOP policy primarily focuses on whether or not SSP fees are sufficient to cover costs; it is less focused on financial support, access and diversity policies. Members felt that there should be some provision for financial support built into the new policy so that SSPs are not unduly burdened.
- Members discussed whether or not CCGA, given the current budget climate, should support the establishment of SSPs. Members suggested the need for the new policy to distinguish between *academic* and *professional* SSPs. The underlying assumption being that academic SSPs are a stepping-stone for eventually becoming a state-funded academic program.
- Members recommended the inclusion of language stipulating the need for departments to take into account the relative success of SSPs in the future planning and proposal of state-funded

programs. Members commented that SSPs naturally attract non-resident students; they also discussed the implications of the privatizing SSPs.

- Members discussed the relationship of SSPs to UC Extension. Members commented on UC Extension’s primarily administrative since SSPs are reviewed by local Graduate Councils. CCGA members were mostly indifferent on this issue.

ACTION: No action was taken; additional issues will be discussed at the next meeting.

V. Proposed Program Name Change: Bioinformatics M.S. and Ph.D. to Biomolecular Engineering M.S. and Ph.D. at UC Santa Cruz – Chair Chehab

ISSUE: When CCGA last considered this request in December, members felt that the proposed name signaled a fundamental change in the nature of the Bioinformatics graduate degree program and requested additional information from the campus to aide CCGA in its review.

DISCUSSION: CCGA considered the campus’ most recent response to its prior concerns. Members discussed whether or not the request constitutes two new programs vs. a simple name change; or two-related yet distinct degrees/tracks/specializations within the existing program. Members agreed that the proposed structure consists of two separate programs, in which case they would require formal divisional Graduate Council and CCGA reviews. As an alternative, CCGA members suggested that a simple name change would consist of a Biomolecular Engineering program with an emphasis in Bioinformatics.. One member questioned what harm there would be in approving a change from one to two programs. Members discussed the larger question of whether or not CCGA needs to review cases when one department wishes to become two programs.

ACTION: Members ultimately agreed to recommend two options to UCSC: 1) a change to Biomolecular Engineering with the addition of emphasis in Bioinformatics (simple name change) or 2) a change to BBM or BMB which would entail separate program reviews in accordance with local procedures and CCGA’s normal review process.

VI. Proposed Discontinuance of Graduate Program in Agricultural and Environmental Chemistry at UC Berkeley – Chair Chehab

ISSUE: As per the Compendium, CCGA (or Academic Affairs) may become involved in the Transfer, Consolidation or Discontinuance (TCD) of Graduate Degree Programs as a result of concerns such that the Divisional Senate may not have been appropriately involved and/or that Universitywide implications may not have been satisfactorily addressed. Members reviewed the enclosed report on the above proposal.

ACTION: Members voted to approve the Discontinuance and to send a cautionary note to the department stipulating that care should be taken for the remaining enrolled students and that request that the Graduate Dean/Graduate Council oversee the student’s progress/time-to-degree.

VII. Proposed Discontinuance of Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Romance Linguistics and Literature at UCLA – Chair Chehab

ISSUE: Determine if there are any questions or concerns that CCGA wishes to convey to the Divisional Senate or the campus and whether or not to take additional action, (e.g., request to review the TCD proposal after the campus review has been completed or request a Systemwide review of the proposal).

ACTION: After a brief discussion, members voted to approve the Discontinuance.

VIII. Proposed Discontinuance of M.A. Degree in Department of Design | Media Arts at UCLA – Chair Chehab

ISSUE: Determine if there are any questions or concerns that CCGA wishes to convey to the Divisional Senate or the campus and whether or not to take additional action, (e.g., request to review the TCD proposal after the campus review has been completed or request a Systemwide review of the proposal).

ACTION: After a brief discussion, members voted to approve the Discontinuance.

IX. Proposed Degrees and Programs for Review

A. Proposal for a Joint Doctoral Program in Geophysics (Earthquake Sciences and Applied Geophysics) between UC San Diego and San Diego State University – Lead Reviewer Ken Rose (UCSB)

REPORT: Prof. Rose reported that he has received letters from Washington and UCSC; letters from Berkeley, Stanford are forthcoming. The two letters in hand are supportive and suggest that the proposed JDP would mainly SDSU with some benefits to UC. Also expressed were concerns with the age of proposal and the recommendation for approval subject to confirmed commitment of resources from SDSU.

B. Proposal for a Ph.D. degree program in Communications at UC Davis – Lead Reviewer Liz Watkins (UCSF)

REPORT: Members had no suggested changes to the draft letter; Prof. Watkins will send the letter to UCD upon her return.

C. Proposal for a Joint Doctoral Program in Evolutionary Biology between UC Riverside and San Diego State University – Lead Reviewer Lowell Gallagher (UCLA)

REPORT: The reviews were uniformly favorable with no substantive curricular concerns. There was some concern with the lack of a firm space commitment; two of the four reviewers were concerned with the course list. Prof. Gallagher will follow-up with the proponents in writing on these issues.

D. Proposal for a Master of Science degree program in Science and Technology Studies in Medicine at UC San Francisco – Lead Reviewer Ira Tager (UCB)

REPORT: Prof. Tager reported that the two biggest issues were with the medical student option for completing core courses; dropping the thesis requirement and instead adopt Plan 2 for the one-year students; concerns with the rigidity of Plan 1; the method of evaluating the students; dropping the English-proficiency requirement; and more detail about how they intend to mentor students. Prof. Tager will convey CCGA's general support; the reviewer concerns; along with a request that they revise the medical student option and provide scenarios for Plan 1 and Plan 2 requirements aimed at a thesis or capstone requirement, respectively.

E. Proposal for an Interdepartmental Graduate Program leading to the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Materials Science and Engineering at UC Riverside – Lead Reviewer Jim Carmody (UCSD)

REPORT: Prof. Carmody was not in attendance.

- F. Proposal for a joint UC San Diego/SDSU Ph.D. degree program in Engineering Sciences (Bioengineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering and Structural Engineering) – Lead Reviewer Valerie Leppert (UCM)**

REPORT: Prof. Leppert was not in attendance.

- G. Proposal for an Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Computational Science, Mathematics, and Engineering leading to M.S. degree (Computational Science) at UC San Diego – Lead Reviewer Andre Knoesen (UCD)**

REPORT: Prof. Knoesen reported that he still waiting for a response to requested clarifications.

- H. Proposal for a Master of Professional Accountancy degree program (M.P.Ac.) at UC Berkeley – Glen Mimura (UCI)**

REPORT: Prof. Mimura reported that the proponents are delaying opening of program by one year due to budget constraints; they indicated their intention however to submit a revised proposal to CCGA for consideration this academic year.

X. New Business

XI. Executive Session (members only)

Notes were not taken during the Executive Session.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Attest: Farid Chehab, CCGA Chair
Prepared by: Eric Zárate, Committee Analyst