UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ACADEMIC SENATE
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET

Minutes of Meeting
March 3, 2020

I. Consent Calendar

- Approval of UCPB March 3, 2020 agenda
- Approval of UCPB February 4, 2020 minutes

ACTION: UCPB approved the consent calendar.

II. Announcements

- *Sean Malloy, UCPB Chair*
- *Bruce Schumm, UCPB Vice Chair*

UC graduate student teaching assistants are working under a 2018 UAW contract that expires in 2022. Union members on some campuses opposed that contract; the vote was 80% against at UCSC, where the high cost of living is putting financial pressure on many graduate students. In November, UCSC graduate students demanding a $1400 monthly COLA initiated an unauthorized "wildcat" strike and began withholding grades. In January, the UAW formally requested new bargaining with the University to address cost of living issues. The University responded by threatening to dismiss the students from teaching assignments. At the February 12 Assembly meeting, President Napolitano stated that she would not entertain reopening the contract to end the strike or issuing a side letter. Last week, the Academic Council issued two statements to the President about the wildcat strike. The first asked the University to address graduate students' concerns about housing and food security and refrain from punitive action against striking students. The second asked the University to roll back and demilitarize the police presence at the strike. In a letter to Chair Bhavnani, the President noted that the statements were not productive in bringing the strike to an end. Some administrators have also suggested that given the faculty's supervisory authority over graduate students and their role as instructors of record for courses, the Academic Senate has a role in helping end the strike. On Friday, the University followed through on threats by dismissing 54 graduate students from their spring teaching assignments.

- It was noted that many faculty and students are disappointed about campus and systemwide administrators' response to the strike, their unwillingness to sit down with graduate students, their mismanagement of the strike response, and the use of scare tactics such as militarized policing. Some faculty also disapprove of the graduate students' tactics and their effect on undergraduate students. UCPB's Graduate Student representative noted that graduate students want the administration to recognize that housing and food insecurity are real issues, and to commit to working with students to address the housing crisis.

- Vice Chair Gauvain encouraged UCPB to consider the financial aspects and implications of the problem. These considerations might include mechanisms to support higher stipends and more affordable housing, but they should also acknowledge the placement of UC campuses in the highest cost areas of California, and the effect on campus budgets of the potential loss of undergraduates due to the strike. Members also noted that the issues raised by the striking students connect directly to the state's longstanding underfunding of graduate education. UC has failed to secure state funding adequate to sustain the graduate education enterprise.

III. Consultation with UCOP

- *Seija Virtanen, Associate Director, State Budget Relations*
- *Paul Jenny, Interim Chief Financial Officer*
- *David Alcocer, Associate Vice President, Budget Analysis and Planning*

State Budget: On February 25, the California State Assembly hosted an initial hearing on the higher education budget; hearings are scheduled weekly until May. In February, campus leaders met with Assembly Budget Committee Chair Ting and Education Finance Subcommittee Chair McCarty, who want UC to reduce nonresident enrollments, but who agreed to delay any legislative action while UC develops alternative mechanisms for increasing resident enrollments. UC is concerned about a potential legislative mandate, given that nonresidents contribute $1.3 billion in tuition revenues to campus budgets.

The Governor's proposed budget provides UC with $217.7 million in additional core funding, including a general fund base increase of $169.5 with no use mandates attached, and set-asides for medical education programs at UCR and in the San Joaquin Valley, UCSD emergency preparedness projects, immigrant legal services, and graduate medical education. However, the budget does not fund new undergraduate or graduate enrollments, or all of UC's campus mandatory cost increases. The University is requesting an additional $235 million in ongoing funding to support enrollment growth, degree attainment programs, and cost increases.

LAO Report: The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) report on the Governor's budget acknowledged that it does not fund all of UC's cost increases, but also recommended that the Legislature prescribe more how UC uses the unallocated general fund increase. In addition, the LAO recommended a change to the marginal cost of instruction formula, which defines the average share of funding required to educate an additional resident student net of fees. The change would increase the assumed student faculty ratio from 18.7:1 to 21.7:1, to more closely reflect the actual student faculty ratio. UC opposes this change, noting that it has enrolled thousands of unfunded students and has been unable to hire enough faculty to balance the new enrollments.

Legislation: The Legislature is considering large scale changes to the Cal Grant program that would expand the program dramatically for CCC students and also provide a greater number of UC students with Cal Grants. Additionally, the University has written a letter objecting to new federal Medicaid regulations proposed to take effect in April that would reduce federal Medicaid funding to California by $2 billion.

Advocacy: State Governmental Relations is working to inform legislators and their staff about the University's budget needs. Additionally, SGR has arranged meetings between legislators and local UC campus representatives, and between individual Regents and the Governor and Legislators.

Tuition Plan: The Regents have scheduled an action item on March 19 to consider a proposed multi-year cohort tuition plan that guarantees each entering undergraduate cohort a constant tuition level for six years. Beginning with an increase of 2% plus inflation (pegged to the California CPI) for the 2020-21 entering cohort, and then increases of inflation plus 1.5%, 1%, and 0.5% for the three subsequent cohorts,

Liabilities: The Chair of the Regents and President Napolitano have charged a Working Group on Long-Term Liabilities to explore revenue strategies and options for resolving accounting

liabilities such as those related to UCRP, as well as liabilities related to campus deferred maintenance and seismic deficiencies. UCPB Chair Malloy and TFIR Chair Brownstone are members. The Working Group has been asked to report to the Regents in September.

UCRP Funding: UCOP officials had a productive conversation with the state about a possible restart of regular State contributions to UCRP or one-time Proposition 2 funding for UCRP. State officials noted that they were open to having UC put a request.

- UCPB members noted that the graduate student strike is an opportunity to feature the consequences of the state's underfunding of graduate education and/or to advocate for increased flexibility around housing construction approvals.
- UCSB Professor Newfield shared slides from an upcoming UCSB administration presentation to the Regents on the UCSB budget. The slides illustrate that faculty hiring projected in UCSB's Long Range Plan has not kept pace with undergraduate enrollment, and that the campus already has hit its 2025-26 enrollment target. UCSB also lags its graduate student enrollment target, has reached its nonresident enrollment cap, and is projecting a deficit. The campus does not have resources to meet educational need and demand, and also lacks space and community support for growth.
- It was noted that some campus administrators feel discouraged from reporting bad news to the Regents; it is important for the Regents to hear not only success stories but also stories about deteriorating campus facilities. UCPB members encouraged UCOP administrators to include faculty and students on panels making campus budget presentation to the Regents.
- UCOP consultants noted that State legislators have proposed a bill to allow UC to obtain low cost student housing construction loans through the Treasurer's Office, but the bill would not affect existing CEQA protections or standards. The University is evaluating its debt capacity for future housing projects. It uses public-private partnerships (P3s) for projects, which allows campuses to offer rent at 20-30% below market rates. However, new outsourcing rules may constrain UC's future ability to use P3s. Consultants noted that UCOP is always looking for compelling stories to feature at Regents meetings, particularly those that combine reality messages with solution messages.

IV. The Graduate Student Strike and Support for Graduate Education

UCPB discussed a potential statement addressing the graduate student strike from a budgetary perspective. It was suggested that the statement express the principle of supporting graduate students, touch on the conditions related to the cost of living, and address the underlying structural issues affecting graduate student support.

It was noted that the lack of clarity at UCSC surrounding the source of additional graduate student support promised by the administration is not confined to one campus, and that there is no consensus about the definition of "affordable" housing, or about the budgetary trade-offs that would be acceptable in exchange for better graduate student support. It was noted that financial conditions outside of UC's control such as state support and over-enrollment, contribute significantly to the crisis. Additionally, some legislators and other stakeholders do not understand what graduate students do, their role in the teaching and research enterprise, or why they receive stipends. It was noted that graduate and undergraduate education are deeply linked; it affects undergraduates if their TAs are sleeping in cars or insecure about food and housing. It was noted that the UC graduate student experience should not produce an unreasonable amount of debt, although the goal of a debt free experience may be unrealistic. In addition, adequate

funding for graduate students is crucial to achieving UC's diversity goals; housing and food insecurity have a disproportionate effect on underrepresented and low income students. It was noted that Research Assistant salaries are similar to those for Teaching Assistants, but are funded by grants. RAs may clamor for equivalent salary increases, but faculty may not be willing or able to provide increases through the grant.

UCPB members suggested that in addition to the statement there be a longer term study about these issues. It was agreed that Chair Malloy would invite the CCGA chair to consider assembling a UCPB-CCGA subcommittee to discuss recommendations for better supporting graduate students.

V. Review of Proposed Self Supporting Degree Programs

Lead reviewer Professor Stanton submitted a report on UCLA's proposed self-supporting Master of Financial Engineering – Asia Pacific. He noted that the MFE will form part of a two-year dual degree program with the Guanghua School of Management at Peking University, in which the UCLA Anderson School of Management will offer the MFE, and Guanghua will offer a Master of Finance. The program will be marketed primarily to Chinese students. UCLA promotes the program as an international collaborative teaching, learning, and research opportunity in state-of-the-art financial technology. It also provides an opportunity for UCLA to partner with a highly ranked Chinese university. Tuition will be set initially at $44,000, and UCLA projects net revenues of $882,000 by year three, which will primarily support UCLA's Anderson School (which is mostly self-supporting), and also state supported programs. Total indirect costs are calculated for the whole campus, divided by the total number of students in the campus to get a per student value, and then multiplied by the number of students in the MFE to obtain a total.

The program satisfactorily addresses possible impacts on state-supported programs, faculty effort and overload teaching. It should be monitored to ensure its ongoing health, but makes sense for Anderson and UCLA, especially given the existing MFE is healthy. It was noted that there were concerns at UCLA about the proposal and it barely survived an initial 2018 vote of the Senate. Concerns centered on whether a perceived focus on making money over serving Californians could dilute the UCLA brand.

ACTION: UCPB will forward the report to CCGA.

VI. New Self Supporting Degree Programs

1. UCLA Master of Healthcare Administration

ACTION: Professor Don Senear will review and report back in April.

2. UCLA Master of Engineering

ACTION: Professor Ahmet Palazoglu will review and report back in April.

3. UCB Master in Development Engineering

ACTION: Professor Nirvikar Singh will review and report back in April.

VII. Five-Year reviews of Multi Campus Research Units

Per the Compendium, UCORP leads five-year reviews of Multi-campus research units (MRUs) and UCPB and CCGA appoint one member each to act as consultants to UCORP for the reviews.

Bioengineering Institute of California: Professor Patti LiWang reported as the UCPB liaison to the joint review committee for the Bioengineering Institute of California (BIC). The BIC engages Bioengineering faculty from all ten campuses. It receives no central funding and its only activity and budget is for annual all-campus bioengineering symposium, which is funded by industry sponsors, a small donation from each campus, and the home campus of that year's symposium. The BIO has a fraction of a staff member at the home campus of the leadership, which just moved from UCSD to Davis.

The joint committee met with BIC leadership at UCORP's February meeting, who provided details about goals, governance, budget, and plans for outreach. The review committee questioned whether there was enough activity and participation across campuses to make it a viable MRU, but decided the BIO is succeeding at engaging faculty and post-docs, fostering community, and uniting UC scholars.

UC Observatories: Professor Harry Tom reported as the UCPB liaison to the joint review committee for the UC Observatories (UCO). UCO operates five telescopes, including a three-meter telescope at Lick Observatory on Mount Hamilton close to UCSC. Lick is wholly owned by UC. UCO is also a managing partner (with CalTech) of the ten-meter Keck Observatory in Hawaii, and a partner in the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project. Faculty and students from across UC have access to these resources. (Graduate students tend to use Lick; and faculty use Keck.) UCO also develops advanced technologies for telescopes, supports teaching and training, and fosters cross-campus research collaboration. UCO receives about $6.8 million in annual funding from UCOP. The joint committee met with UCO leadership at UCORP's February meeting. The committee strongly supports the UCO Mission. Professor Tom will follow up with the UCO director to clarify some budget questions.

VIII. Report from the UCPB Task Force on Agriculture and Natural Resources

- **Eleanor Kaufman, Chair TF-ANR**

Chair Kaufman noted that TF-ANR met with six Cooperative Extension (CE) Specialists on February 14 to hear their perspectives about issues such as research funding, relations with home departments, working with graduate students, and Senate membership.

CE Specialists serve as liaisons between UC and the agricultural sector, and help facilitate the Agricultural Extension Station (AES) mission to transmit research to farmers and growers. They build research programs that convert basic research into applied science that aligns with the needs of farmers. They engage in community outreach, work with students, and teach and train CE Advisors and professionals at county-based research and extension centers throughout California. Specialists are not Senate members unless they have a partial Instruction and Research (I&R) appointment. Most Specialists are based on one of the AES campuses, UCB, UCD, and UCR, but several are now based at UCM, UCSC, and UCSB.

At the February 14 meeting, Specialists described several factors contributing to feelings of disrespect and disconnection from general campus life. They emphasized their lack of Senate membership and disparities in their rights, privileges, and resources compared to Senate faculty,

noting in particular disparities in salary increases between Senate faculty (4%) and Specialists (3%). They noted that UC is the only university of its kind not to recognize Specialists as Senate members.

Another issue is security of funding. Specialists noted that they are often hired on split appointments funded partially by ANR and partially by a campus. These appointments may be temporary and renewable subject to funding availability, which can impede campus integration and their ability to establish a research program. Additionally, ANR evaluates Specialists based on non-AES campuses, while Specialists on AES campuses are evaluated by deans on that campus. This arrangement can create a disconnect with the community in which the Specialist works.

There is no consensus yet on TF-ANR about how to move forward. Some members want to better understand and clarify the mechanism for series conversion as a possible solution for some specialists who are meeting the basic criteria for Senate membership. Others are concerned about devoting too much time and energy to Specialist issues. TF-ANR will discuss its goals and future agenda at a spring meeting. TF-ANR also has been concerned about why ANR and AES funding is not shared more broadly across UC campuses, given that all campuses are performing research related to agricultural and natural resources. The ANR VP wants more ANR mission integration across UC, including at non-AES campuses, connecting people on issues such as climate change and new projects in urban areas.

- It was noted that Specialists have a specific applied science and outreach mission. Not all want an I&R appointment, but they do want more protections. It was noted that some agribusiness and commodity groups who receive ANR's services do not pay for them and perhaps should.

IX. Consultation with Senate Leadership

- **Mary Gauvain, Academic Senate Vice Chair**

WGCA Report: Academic Council sent President Napolitano a summary of comments from Senate divisions and systemwide committees about the Working Group on Comprehensive Access Chair's Report.

Area D: The Assembly approved a set of additional recommendations for the Area D (Science) freshman admission requirement. They follow a report from the Public Policy Institute of California that a prior recommendation to increase the requirement from 2 to 3 years could disproportionately affect underrepresented minority students in a handful of low resourced school districts that do not offer three Science courses. The recommendations include maintaining 2 years of science required and 3 years recommended. The requirement may be fulfilled by 2 of 3 single science subjects (biology, chemistry, or physics) or 2 of 3 integrated science subjects. Students may take their third recommended course from an expanded list of disciplines that include Applied Science, Computer Science, Engineering, and Interdisciplinary Science.

Openness in Research: UCOP is preparing a draft "Openness in Research" policy for systemwide review. It clarifies existing UC policies on publication and citizenship restrictions in research agreements; and allows campuses a new ability to accept publication and/or citizenship restrictions, including those imposed by the federal government for national security reasons.

Fossil Fuel Divestment: Council invited CIO Bachher to describe the progress of divestment from fossil fuels in the context of last year's Senate memorial calling on the Regents to divest the UC endowment of those investments, and an *LA Times* op-ed in which the CIO and Regent Sherman wrote that UC was on a glide path to zero investments. CIO Bachher reported that the Regents do not have a divestment policy for fossil fuels. The CIO has been "de-risking" the portfolio of investments in the fossil fuel sectors because they are risky or unprofitable. The process of de-risking began five years ago when the CIO sold investments in coal and oil sands, and then continued that process to investments in oil and gas exploration. TIFR wants the Regents to take a formal position on divestment.

Presidential Search: The Academic Advisory Committee for the Presidential Search met with the Regents Special Committee on March 2. The Special Committee has received the Assembly Resolution and the Council-UCPB statement about the search, and it prefers the current process. The Regents still intend to announce a new president at the May meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm
Minutes Prepared by Michael LaBriola, Principal Committee Analyst
Attest: Sean Malloy, UCPB Chair