#### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

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Mary Croughan

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Chair of the Assembly and the Academic Council Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents University of California 1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor Oakland, California 94607-5200

March 8, 2009

# INTERIM PROVOST PITTS UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Re: Expenditure and accountability of new funds allocated to graduate student support

## Dear Larry:

At its meeting on February 25, Academic Council unanimously endorsed the following recommendations from the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) on the expenditure and accountability of new funds allocated to graduate student support: 1) new funds be used for fees, stipends and tuition; 2) allocations for graduate student support be incorporated into the permanent budget at each campus; 3) any additional future funds should be used to increase competitive recruitment packages; 4) support for graduate students should come from newly allocated funds and not be redirected from other sources that support graduate students; and 5) graduate deans should report annually to their divisional Graduate Council or Divisional Senate on the expenditure of these funds.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding Council's recommendations.

Sincerely,

Mary Croughan, Chair Academic Council

Mary Croughan

Copy: Academic Council

Martha Winnacker, Senate Director

VP Steven Beckwith

Encl. (1)

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COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (CCGA) Farid Chehab, Chair chehabf@labmed2.ucsf.edu

ACADEMIC SENATE University of California 1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor Oakland, California 94607-5200

January 20, 2009

#### MARY CROUGHAN, CHAIR ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Re: Council Letter to President Yudof on Expenditure and Accountability of Funds Allocated for Graduate Student Support

Dear Mary:

At its meetings of December 2, 2008 and January 6, 2009, the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) discussed the issues of prioritization and accountability of funds for Graduate students. The committee considered input solicited from the divisional Graduate Councils via their respective CCGA representatives and from a report issued by the UCB Graduate Assembly on behalf of graduate students across the UC system.

The two most critical issues relate to the expenditure and accountability of new fund allocations for graduate student support, whether in the current year or in future years.

Following a lengthy and thoughtful discussion, the committee voted to pass along the following comments for Council to consider incorporating into a follow-up letter to President Yudof.

- Members unanimously supported the distribution of new funds for graduate students towards fees, stipends and tuition (including NRT) by whatever means the campuses choose to distribute.
- CCGA urges that any allocation for graduate student support be incorporated into the permanent budget allocation at each campus so that it can be continuously made available to graduate students.
- 3) Justification for future additional funds should also be aimed at increasing the competitive recruitment packages of graduate students, taking into account the elevated cost of living in California and the competitiveness for graduate students from other universities in the state.
- 4) CCGA urges that funds for graduate students ought to represent new allocations rather than a reshuffling of existing resources and not be at the expense of cuts from other forms of graduate student support.
- 5) On the issue of accountability, CCGA recommends that Graduate Deans in consultation with their EVCs, be responsible for reporting annually to their divisional Graduate Council or Divisional Senate on the expenditure of these funds on their respective campuses.

CCGA requests from Academic Council that it forward this information to President Yudof and his executive leadership such that funds for graduate student support reach rapidly their destination, especially in these difficult times when graduate student support funding is becoming increasingly difficult throughout the UC system. The committee is confident that these measures will not only help graduate students but also serve the faculty by expanding the ability of their students to choose jobs in California, thus positively contributing to the economy of the state.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,

Farid Chehab, Ph.D.

Chair, CCGA

Copy: CCGA

Martha Winnacker, Executive Director