October 29, 2010

LAWRENCE PITTS
EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR AND PROVOST
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Re: Proposal to rename certain “fees” as “tuition”

Dear Larry:

In August you requested that the Academic Senate review a formal proposal to rename the Education and Professional Degree fees (but not the student services fee) as “tuition.” As you know, the Senate opined favorably on this idea as part of its response to the recommendations made by the Access and Affordability Working Group of the UC Commission on the Future.

At its meeting on October 27, the Academic Council adopted the following resolutions:

1. The Academic Council endorses the UC administration’s proposal to rename the Educational Fee “Tuition.”
2. The Academic Council advises that fees applied to professional schools and professional programs be named “Professional Degree Program Supplemental Tuition.”
3. The Academic Council recommends that renaming Educational Fees as Tuition not affect any advisory role now exercised by Student Fee Advisory Councils.

The formal proposal was sent for systemwide review and we received responses from eight divisions (UCB, UCI, UCLA, UCM, UCR, UCSB, UCSD, UCSF) and three committees (CCGA, UCEP, UCPB). All respondents favor the proposal to rename the Educational Fee “Tuition” as more transparent and consistent with other higher education institutions. The Academic Council further recommends that the change in name should not affect any advisory role now exercised by Student Fee Advisory Councils. Some respondents caution that a public outreach campaign should accompany the new policy, emphasizing that this is a change in terminology, only, and will not result in further costs to students or affect student aid, nor should it relieve the state of its responsibility to adequately fund the University (UCB, UCR, UCSB, UCEP). UCSD also wishes to ensure that the change will not affect current grants and contracts that included “fees” as expenses in the initial grant submission.

Renaming the fees for professional programs is more complex, as the meaning of the term “professional program” is imprecise and could apply to a broad range of programs. Council is
concerned that the proposed term, does not make clear that “professional supplemental tuition” should apply only to select professional degree programs. “We fear that it could have the unintended consequence of softening oversight of professional school fees, thereby opening the door to the expanded use of supplemental ‘professional’ fees and further privatization without Senate deliberations.” (UCPB) CCGA is currently working to define more precisely the distinction between professional and academic programs, as well as the principles that should govern self-supporting programs. CCGA is considering whether to invoke its delegated authority to require review of programs not previously designated as professional programs before they may charge professional tuition. We refer you to Council’s previous statement (Powell to Pitts on June 3, 2010) on the distinction between programs that aim to generate knowledge and those that aim to apply knowledge.

In its discussion of an appropriate term, Council recognized that professional programs may exist outside of traditional professional schools and that some professional school students may not be in professional degree programs. For example, an M.B.A. offered by a School of Business is a professional degree, but a Ph.D. in Business Administration offered in the same school is not; a one-year M.Eng. geared toward working professionals and offered within a School of Engineering could be considered a professional degree, but an M.S. degree program offered in the same school would not. For this reason, Council recommends the use of the term “Professional Degree Program” to identify programs that could legitimately charge a PDF. While perhaps redundant, the Council recommends the use of the term “program” in addition to “degree” in order to assure that someone who pursues the program but does not get a degree may not subsequently claim a refund of supplemental degree fees.

Council also concluded that the term “Supplemental” appropriately describes these fees, because they are in addition to the underlying educational fees (tuition) assessed on all graduate and undergraduate students and applicable only to specified degree programs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Simmons
Chair
Academic Council

Copy: Academic Council
    Martha Winnacker, Academic Senate Executive Director

Encl (11)
Subject: Proposal to rename fees as tuition

At its meeting on October 11, 2010, the Divisional Council (DIVCO) of the Berkeley Division considered the proposal to rename fees as tuition, informed by the comments of the divisional committees on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation, Educational Policy, and Graduate Council. DIVCO endorsed the proposal and strongly recommends that if the change is enacted, the communication plan makes clear that the change is in name only, not a substantive change.

Sincerely,

Fiona M. Doyle
Chair, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Professor of Materials Science and Engineering

Cc: Elizabeth Deakin, Chair, Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation
    Thomas Goldstein, Chair, Committee on Educational Policy
    Ronald Cohen, Chair, Graduate Council
    Linda Song, Associate Director, staff to Graduate Council
    Diane Sprouse, Senate Analyst, Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation
    Elizabeth Wiley, Senate Analyst, Committee on Educational Policy
October 20, 2010

Daniel Simmons, Chair, Academic Council
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

RE: Senate Review of the Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

At its meeting of October 19, 2010, the Irvine Division Academic Senate reviewed the proposal to rename the education and professional degree fees (but not the student services fee) as “tuition.” The Senate Cabinet agreed that the use of the term “tuition” is more accurate, and unanimously endorsed the proposal. The Irvine Division appreciates the opportunity to comment.

Alan Barbour, Senate Chair

C: Martha Kendall Winnacker, Executive Director, Academic Senate
October 20, 2010

Daniel Simmons
Chair, Academic Council
University of California

In Re: UCLA Response to Proposal to Rename ‘Fees’ to ‘Tuition’

Dear Dan,

Thank you for the opportunity to opine on the proposal to rename ‘fees’ to ‘tuition.’ Upon receipt of the proposal, I asked the Graduate Council, Undergraduate Council, the Council on Planning and Budget, the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools, and the Executive Board, which speaks for the Division on such matters, to review. All responses are attached. As is our custom, all other committees are welcome to opine, as well.

The UCLA Academic Senate endorses the proposal with the following stipulation, based on concerns expressed by many undergraduate students on our Senate committees: Presently there are student advisory boards which provide oversight and consultation with regard to student fees. In changing the name to tuition, the Academic Senate feels strongly that these boards maintain or enhance their consultative standing to Chancellors, the President, and other relevant administrators, regardless of the naming of the revenue stream.

Generally speaking, committees reported that members were persuaded by the argument that the use of the term ‘fees’ no longer reflects the practice at the UC and is therefore misleading. The term ‘tuition’ more accurately describes the use of the revenue that supports student instruction. Both our Graduate and Undergraduate Councils, moreover, raised the argument that many students are currently at a disadvantage, given that many grants only cover tuition; making it onerous for current students to receive funding.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review and opine on this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ann Karagozian
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Cc: Martha Kendall Winnacker, Executive Director, Systemwide Senate
    Jaime R. Balboa, Chief Administrative Officer, UCLA Academic Senate
September 30, 2010

Professor Ann Karagozian  
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Re: Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

Dear Professor Karagozian,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition. The Council Planning and Budget met on September 27, 2010, and had brief comments.

By a unanimous vote, the Council endorsed the proposal.

Sincerely,

David Lopez  
Chair, UCLA Council on Planning and Budget

cc: Andy Leuchter, Vice Chair, Academic Senate  
Robin Garrell, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate  
Jaime Balboa, Chief Administrative Officer, Academic Senate  
Linda Mohr, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Academic Senate
October 11, 2010

To: Ann Karagozian  
   Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

From: Darnell Hunt  
   Chair, UCLA Committee on Undergraduate Admissions & Relations with Schools

Re: Senate Item for Review: Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

I am writing to report that at its meeting on October 8, 2010, the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions & Relations with Schools (CUARS) thoughtfully considered the proposal to rename the education and professional degree fees (but not the student service fee) as “tuition.” The committee voted to endorse the proposal, with 6 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention. The student vote was 0 in favor, 2 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

CUARS was persuaded by the argument that the use of the term “fees” is misleading. The term “tuition” more accurately describes the actual use of the revenue that supports student instruction. For the sake of transparency to the public, the university, the students, and the legislature, CUARS feels that it is important to identify student instructional costs accurately.

Those opposed to this proposal view the “adoption of the term ‘tuition’ as an abandonment of UC’s efforts to strive for a tuition-free university where the State fully covers instructional costs.” Once the symbolic language of “fees” is dropped in favor of “tuition,” they felt, the door is open for the university to freely and continually pass on increased instructional costs directly to students.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me (x64304; dhunt@soc.ucla.edu), or Dottie Ayer (x62070; dayer@senate.ucla.edu).

cc: Jaime Balboa, Academic Senate CAO  
    Linda Mohr, Academic Senate Assistant CAO  
    Dottie Ayer, Academic Senate
October 11, 2010

Ann Karagozian, Chair
Academic Senate

RE: Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

Dear Ann,

At its meeting on October 8th, the Graduate Council reviewed the proposal from UCOP to rename University of California “fees” as “tuition.” By a unanimous vote (12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions; GSA Reps: 4 in favor) the Council endorsed the proposal as-written. Members acknowledged that the term “fees” is inconsistent with many of the charges UC levies on its students. By renaming those that are clearly intended for instructional purposes as tuition, we provide truth in advertising about the actual costs of attending the University of California.

Members questioned if renaming fees as tuition would make it any easier to approve increases than is now the case. Some felt that a simple renaming would likely have no impact on the ease of levying increases. Perhaps most importantly, members believe that a change to “tuition” would indeed make it easier for the general public to understand what is being increased as “tuition” is a universally-accepted term that describes one’s primary expenses for an education at an institution of higher learning.

Additionally, the proposal effectively articulates problems that have arisen in the use of the term “fees” for what clearly comes under the definition of “tuition.” The council was swayed by the complications that veteran students face in applying for federal financial aid. Because we technically have no tuition, these students have faced complications in trying to secure grants that cover only the cost of “tuition.” Graduate student representatives on the Graduate Council provided their own anecdotal comments about the same issue arising when applying for certain fellowships. The bottom line is this: the term “fees” has causes confusion for funding agencies when awarding and administrating fellowships and training grants to students of the University of California. These difficulties are unnecessary and are unmistakably a source of frustration for students and principal investigators when requesting support to cover one’s standard educational expenses.

Overall, members felt that the proposal was timely and well-constructed, and they encourage the implementation of the name change. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Steven Nelson
Chair, Graduate Council

cc: Jaime Balboa, CAO, Academic Senate
    Kyle Cunningham, Graduate Council Analyst, Academic Senate
    Dorothy Ayer, Executive Assistant, Academic Senate
October 18, 2010

To: Ann Karagozian  
    Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

From: Joseph B. Watson  
    Chair, Undergraduate Council

Re: Senate Item for Review: Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

I am writing to report that at its meeting on October 15, 2010, the Undergraduate Council (UgC) thoughtfully considered the proposal to rename the education and professional degree fees (but not the student service fee) as “tuition.”

Many members were persuaded by the argument that the use of the term “fees” is misleading. The term “tuition” more accurately describes the actual use of the revenue that supports student instruction. The argument was also made that many students are currently at a disadvantage, given that many grants only cover tuition; making it very difficult for current students to receive funding. Members also felt that calling these costs “tuition” is sending the message to the public that UC needs funding.

Those opposed to this proposal, view the “adoption of the term ‘tuition’ as an abandonment of UC’s efforts to strive for a tuition-free university where the State fully covers instructional costs.” Once the symbolic language of “fees” is dropped in favor of “tuition,” they felt, the door is open for the university to freely and continually pass on increased instructional costs directly to the students. Students also expressed concern that by changing the name from “fees” to “tuition,” it may shift student power/advisory rights on the issue of “fees.” Currently there are student advisory groups over fees, but students posed the questions, what happens if the name is changed?

The committee voted to endorse the proposal, indicating that the distinction between the student service fee and the other fees remain clear, and that student advisory rights associated with fees/tuition not change (14 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions; student vote: 0 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me or Linda Mohr (x62470; mohr@senate.ucla.edu).

cc: Jaime Balboa, Academic Senate CAO  
    Linda Mohr, Academic Senate Assistant CAO  
    Dottie Ayer, Academic Senate
October 19, 2010

PROVOST & EVP PITTs
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Re: Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

Dear Larry,

The Merced Division has reviewed and opined on the proposal to rename the education and professional degree fees as tuition. The Merced Division concurs with the favorable opinion put forward by the Systemwide Academic Senate, and supports this proposal.

Sincerely,

Evan Heit, Chair

cc: Senate Director Susan Sims
    Senate Analyst Fatima Paul
October 11, 2010

Daniel Simmons
Professor of Law
Chair, UC Systemwide Academic Senate
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Dan:

RE: REQUEST FOR SYSTEMWIDE REVIEW--RENAMING FEES AS TUITION

The above request was submitted to the Committee on Educational Policy, Graduate Council and Planning and Budget for review. All three committees unanimously approved the renaming. However, the Committee on Educational Policy was concerned about the public’s perception of the proposed change and made the following suggestion:

“In order to avoid unnecessary public embarrassment for the University, we suggest that this proposal be implemented together with a forceful public outreach campaign clarifying the complete lack of impact this change of nomenclature will have on the cost to students and reiterating the University of California’s commitment to affordable, high-quality education. Current UC students and the public should also be informed that all student aid programs will be unaffected by this relabeling.”

Sincerely yours,

Mary Gauvain
Professor of Psychology and
Chair of the Riverside Division

CC: Martha Kendall Winnacker, Executive Director of the Academic Senate
    Sellyna Ehlers, Director of UCR Academic Senate office
October 20, 2010

Daniel Simmons, Chair
Academic Senate

RE: Renaming Fees as Tuition

Dear Dan,

Several Councils and committees in the Santa Barbara Division reviewed the Proposal to Rename Fees as tuition including: Undergraduate Council (UgC), Graduate Council (GC), Council on Planning and Budget (CPB), the Committee on Diversity and Equity (CDE), and the Faculty Executive Committees of Letters and Science, Creative Studies, College of Engineering, and the Graduate School of Education (GGSE).

All reviewing groups unanimously support the proposal to rename fees as tuition as it is believed to be a more transparent and accurate wording to describe the costs of a UC education. At the same time several groups cautioned that the change in wording not be understood as a lesser responsibility or commitment on the part of the State to adequately fund the University of California. Some groups suggest that the public relations effort communicate to the public the reasons and rationale behind the change in name. In particular, advocacy efforts should stress that UC continues to be an accessible and affordable institution by stressing financial aid programs. Some groups commented that UC should not lose sight of its prior tuition free status in spite of the shift in economic realities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Henning Bohn, Chair
Santa Barbara Division
October 11, 2010

Professor Daniel Simmons  
Chair, Academic Council  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200

Subject: Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

Dear Dan,

The Senate Council of the San Diego Division considered Provost Pitts’ proposal to rename the Education Fee and Professional Degree Fees as “tuition” at its meeting on October 4, 2010. Council members were generally supportive of the proposal, though a question was raised as to whether the renaming would impact current grants and contracts that list “fees” rather than “tuition” as a part of the initial grant submission. In supporting the proposal, it is Council’s understanding that the terms “fees” and “tuition” will be interchangeable, and that the renaming will not affect any current grants or contracts.

Sincerely,

Frank L. Powell, Chair  
Academic Senate, San Diego Division

cc: Divisional Vice Chair Sobel  
Executive Director Winnacker
Communication from the Committee on Educational Policy
Peter Loomer, DDS, Chair

September 28, 2010

Elena Fuentes-Afflick, MD, MPH
Chair, UCSF Academic Senate
500 Parnassus Avenue, Box 0764

Re: Review of the Proposal to Rename “Fees” and “Tuition” at the University of California

Dear Chair Fuentes-Afflick,

As requested, on September 15, 2010, the Committee on Educational Policy reviewed the Proposal to Rename “Fees” and “Tuition” at the University of California as submitted to the San Francisco Division for review and comment.

Overall, committee members are in favor of the changes, which will clarify confusion on the part of applicants.

Members requested clarification on the difference between Tuition and Professional Supplemental Tuition for select professional school students. From the proposal as written, it is unclear if the supplemental tuition described is on top of the regular tuition, such that some professional students pay both, while others do not. It is also unclear to which professional students this “supplemental” tuition would apply.

Members request that the Supplemental Tuition be renamed Resident or Non-resident tuition if that is the distinguishing factor.

Sincerely,

The Committee on Educational Policy

Peter Loomer, DDS, PhD, Chair, (Orofacial Sciences) (D)
Abbey Alkon, RN, PhD, PNP, Vice Chair, UCEP Representative (Family Health Care) (N)
Sergio Baranzini, PhD, Adjunct Faculty & WASC Liaison (Neurology) (M)
Lucy Fisher, RN, PhD, Adjunct Rep (Family Health Care Nursing) (N)
Thomas Kearny, PharmD, (Clinical Pharmacy) (P)
Nancy Nkansah, PharmD, MBA (Pharmacy Education) (P)
Vineeta Singh, MD, (Neurology) (M)
Douglas Schmucker, PhD, (Anatomy) (M)
Sophia Saeed, DMD, Clinical Representative (Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery) (D)
Elisabeth Wilson, MD, MPH, (Family and Community Medicine) (M)
DANIEL SIMMONS  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR  

Re: Renaming Fees as Tuition  

Dear Dan:  

The Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) has considered the Administration’s proposal to rename the education and professional degree fees as “tuition.” CCGA members agreed with the Academic Council’s view that doing so is a good idea, in principle. The Committee did however express a number of concerns and made several suggestions:  

1. **The proposed new name for professional fees broadens the reach of those fees.** The proposal to rename “Fees for Selected Professional School Students” to “Professional Supplemental Tuition” is problematic as this renaming entails more than a change in terminology. The proposed change removes an explicit reference to “professional schools” and substitutes a vague reference to “professional programs.” CCGA is concerned that programs that have been approved as “non-professional” and that have functioned for some time as “non-professional” programs may be redesignated “professional” in order to justify the imposition of the proposed “Professional Supplemental Tuition.”  

2. **The term “supplemental” is problematic and suggests that the proposal does not apply to self-supporting programs.** In view of CCGA’s current examination of professional programs and self-supporting programs, it does not seem like the right time to endorse an implicit broadening of the set of programs that can charge professional tuition/fees. In actuality, a professional self-supporting program is not really charging supplemental tuition; it is charging tuition to cover expenses.  

CCGA, vis-à-vis the Academic Senate, can take the path of forcefully imposing its delegated authority for academic programs and insist that in order to charge professional tuition, a program must be approved as a professional program. Under such a scenario, any proposal to redesignate a program as “professional” that has been approved as and operated as a “non-professional” program would be seen by CCGA as the kind of substantive change to a program that would customarily trigger CCGA review.  

3. **The proposed new term for professional fees has alerted CCGA to the extent to which the term “professional” is itself troublesome in its vagueness.** While there is a common understanding of why a law school, for example, might be called a professional school, there is no such common understanding of why a program in ceramics might be called a professional program – making ceramics has not traditionally been seen as practicing a profession. Similarly, while a person who makes ceramics
might be called by some a “professional artist,” few people would call a person who practices law a “professional lawyer” – an apparent tautology. CCGA will consider how the term “professional” might usefully be defined for the purposes of approving or redesignating graduate programs as “professional.”

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about CCGA’s comments.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

James Carmody, Ph.D.
Chair, CCGA

Copy: Martha Winnacker, Academic Senate Executive Director
CCGA Members
October 13, 2010

Dan Simmons, CHAIR
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Re: Proposal to Rename Fees as Tuition

Dear Dan,

At its October 4, 2010 meeting, UCEP discussed the proposal to rename fees as tuition. UCEP members favor this proposal for all the reasons advanced in the proposal document. Members noted that military veterans attending private institutions are funded based on the tuition levels at their state schools, so California veterans receive nothing at present because nominally UC charges no tuition. Members also recommended careful examination of the various forms of student financial aid to ensure that this terminology change does not interfere with students receiving aid.

UCEP members strongly recommend that there should be outreach to students explaining that this change is in terminology only; the amount they will pay is the same. There should also be clear communication so the public understands that tuition is not being charged in addition to educational fees. UC should take a proactive approach in doing outreach about this change; we should not be blindsided by headlines like, “UC adds $10,000 tuition to student bills.”

Sincerely,

David G. Kay, Chair
UCEP
October 18, 2010

DANIEL SIMMONS, CHAIR
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Re: Proposal to Rename “Fees” as “Tuition”

Dear Dan,

The University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB) has reviewed UCOP’s proposal to rename the “educational fee” as “tuition” and “fees for professional school students” as “professional supplemental tuition.” The UC Commission on the Future discussed this idea last year, and UCPB agreed in principle in its response to the Working Group recommendations.

UCPB supports this renaming proposal as written with one exception, which we believe is best addressed in new wording outlined below.

First, UCPB supports the intent of the recommendations, because we believe that it makes sense to recognize reality and describe it honestly. There is some concern that the public could perceive the change in terminology as violating the Master Plan’s vision of tuition-free higher education; however, the reality is that the erosion of state support has made it impossible for UC to follow this vision. For decades now, the state’s unwillingness to fund UC has forced the University to charge tuition-level fees and to use those fees to fund instruction.

We do have one concern with UCOP’s proposed language. The new wording for professional school fees does not make clear that “professional supplemental tuition” should apply only to select professional school degree programs. We fear that it could have the unintended consequence of softening oversight of professional school fees, thereby opening the door to the expanded use of supplemental “professional” fees and further privatization without Senate deliberations. UCPB does not want to rule out the possibility that a program could charge professional fees, but the name change should not imply changes to other policies, and we do not want to change fee policy in any way, without appropriate review.

We ask the Academic Council to act on the following resolutions:

2. “The Academic Council recommends that UCOP work to ensure that this change becomes an opportunity to highlight the lack of state support for UC.”

   Sincerely,

   [Signature]

   James A. Chalfant
   UCPB Chair

cc: UCPB
    Martha Winnacker, Senate Executive Director