



Kum-Kum Bhavnani
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*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate
Faculty Representative to the Regents
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200*

July 22, 2020

**MICHAEL T. BROWN
PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

Re: Approval of UCI School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharm.D.

Dear Michael,

In accordance with the *Universitywide Review Processes For Academic Programs, Units, and Research Units* (the “Compendium”), the Academic Council solicited input from the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA), the University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB), and the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP), regarding UC Irvine’s proposal to establish a School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The Senate’s three Compendium Committees are unanimous in support of UCI’s proposal.

Because the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is a new School, Council must approve per Senate Bylaw 125.B.7. The Academic Council endorsed the proposal at its June 24, 2020 meeting.

In addition, at its July 22 meeting, the Academic Council endorsed the concurrently proposed Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree.

I am enclosing CCGA’s report on its review of the new School and the Pharm.D., and the reviews conducted by UCEP and UCPB on the new School. I respectfully request that your office complete the process of obtaining the President’s approval.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair
Academic Council

cc: Academic Council
UCI Senate Director Brigman
IRAP Analyst Procello



COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (CCGA)

Ramesh Balasubramaniam, Chair
ramesh@ucmerced.edu

ACADEMIC SENATE

University of California
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June 4, 2020

ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR KUM-KUM BHAVNANI

Dear Chair Bhavnani,

At its June 3 meeting, the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) voted 10-0-2 to approve a proposal for a new School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences on the Irvine campus and a Pharm D proposal.

The proposed school will focus on integrative and interdisciplinary research and training in basic and clinical pharmacy, with particular emphasis on preventive measures and/or alternatives to standard medications and healthcare practices. Educational programs in the school are planned to include a new Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm. D.) degree, concurrently proposed; the pre-existing Ph.D., master's, and bachelor's programs; and the addition of a second Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Program (SSGPDP). The school also offers a post-baccalaureate certificate program and plans to establish a robust program of professional training opportunities that offer continuing education units to practicing pharmacists.

In November 2019, CCGA approved a pre-proposal for the School of Pharmacy with some concerns as outlined below:

- 1) As stated in CCGA's review criteria for new programs (and schools that house them), a statement and plan of the School's vision for Diversity, equity, and inclusion will be necessary. "All proposals must include (a) a vision for how the program will advance UC's goals for diversity and (b) a plan that details what steps the program will take in its first five years to move it toward the identification, recruitment, and retention of underrepresented minority students and faculty. The proposal should will evaluate its diversity goals."
- 2) Although this is likely to be addressed when the new programs are reviewed, CCGA encourages the proposers to think about the impact that the self-supported programs will have on the school's resources and state supported students. Of particular concern are issues related to the diversity of the student body in the self and state supported programs.
- 3) The growth plan from ~45 PhD students to nearly double that in 2026 needs to be thought through carefully. It is not clear if adequate funds are budgeted for this (both on the revenue and expenditure side) so the quality of the program offerings can be maintained.

In January, 2020, the full proposal for the School and Pharm D proposal was submitted. On March 13, a national emergency was declared in response to the coronavirus. Despite the complications this brought to the situation, the Lead Reviewer worked to get internal and external reviews for the School and Pharm D proposals.

As anticipated, the full proposal addressed the issues brought forward in the review of the pre-proposers. Reviewers were largely positive about the programs, the structure of the D.Pharm degree, academic rigor, need for the School and its place within the UC system. A major concern that two reviewers raised was surrounding the financial viability of the new School, especially in a saturated market. The Dean of the proposed School addressed those concerns. In addition, concerns were raised at the campus level of the role of “alternative” health practices courses in the elective offerings. The Dean’s response addressed this concern in a satisfactory manner.

CCGA recommends approval of the School of Pharmacy and the Pharm D. proposal. I submit this for your review and have enclosed my report as Lead Reviewer. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions regarding the proposal.

Sincerely,



Ramesh Balasubramaniam
Chair, Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA)

cc: Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Vice Chair
CCGA Members
Hilary Baxter, Academic Senate Executive Director
Michael LaBriola, Academic Senate Associate Director
Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst
Gillian Hayes, UC Irvine Graduate Dean
Kate Brigman, UCI Senate Executive Director
Thao Nguyen, UCI Senate Analyst

Enclosures (1)

Lead Reviewer Summary

6/3/2020

The proposal is to establish a School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at UCI. The proposal is detailed and well supported documentation. Appropriate Senate procedures were followed with a pre-proposal that was reviewed by the campus and systemwide Senate.

The principal graduate program of the proposal is the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), a four-year degree program with Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST). The PharmD is the clinical and professional practice degree required to be a licensed pharmacist. The content of the degree curriculum must meet the accreditation requirements of the Accreditation Council on Pharmacy Education (ACPE) for its graduates' licensure. As required by the ACPE, the PharmD degree cannot be offered without the establishment of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmacological Sciences. Thus, these proposals had to be reviewed concurrently by the Academic Senate. Furthermore, due to time constraints both the School and PharmD proposals were concurrently reviewed by the UCI Division and the systemwide senate committees including CCGA, UCEP, and UCPB.

There already exists a Department of Pharmacological Sciences, which offers a PhD, a self-supporting graduate professional degree program (SSGPDP), an undergraduate program, and a post-baccalaureate certificate programs. The proposed PharmD and the School appear to be fully funded drawing on existing faculty from the Department of Pharmacology, the \$200M Samuelli gift, and additional funds provided by the Provost. These funds have been committed and during the review process the UCI Provost made several statements re: the financial viability of the School. Additionally, the UCSF School of Pharmacy and UCSD School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences also have submitted letters of support.

The proposed School will consist of the following graduate degree programs:

Existing

- PhD in Pharmacological Sciences
- MD/PhD in Pharmacological Sciences
- Master of Science in Pharmacology (SSGPDP)
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Newly Proposed

- Doctor of Pharmacy (PDST): reviewed concurrently.
- Master in Neuropsychopharmacology (SSGPDP)

In the transfer to the new School, the existing Master of Science in Pharmacology (SSGPDP) and the MS and PhD in Pharmacological Sciences are expected to continue to improve synergistically with the PharmD program when the new School is formally established.

Four external reviewers commented on the School and the D.Pharm proposal. These were experts drawn from the scientific community. CCGA invited reviewers with special experience

in the creation of Schools and Programs. Three of the reviewers were external to the UC, and one reviewer was from UC San Diego's School of Pharmacy.

Reviewers were largely positive about the programs, the structure of the D.Pharm degree, academic rigor, need for the School and its place within the UC system. A major concern that two reviewers raised was surrounding the financial viability of the new School, especially in a saturated market. The Dean of the proposed School responded thus.

“Demand for Pharmacists: The most recent data from the *Bureau of Labor Statistics Job Outlook (2018)* projects a 0% change in the field of pharmacy overall, due to the decline in retail pharmacy jobs related to online competition for product sales. However, BLS projects an *increase* in demand for pharmacists in healthcare settings (e.g., clinics, physician offices, hospital ambulatory care clinics, specialty pharmacies) providing pharmacy services, driven by the needs of greater numbers of prescription medications for an aging population. UCI's graduates will be well-prepared for this growing career path, particularly because of the Pharm.D. curriculum's emphasis on interprofessional education as part of the SHSCoHS, and extensive experiential practice within our own academic medical center setting—advantages that prepare graduates for the future of team-based care within healthcare settings that many pharmacy schools lack.”

Concerns were raised at the campus level of the role of “alternative” health practices courses in the elective offerings. The Dean's response addressed this concern in a satisfactory manner.

Given my reading of the proposal, the external reviewer reports, and the comprehensive review of the various Senate committees, I recommend that we approve the proposal for the School and the D.Pharm program.

Sincerely,

Ramesh Balasubramaniam, PhD
Chair, Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs
UC Systemwide Senate.



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET (UCPB)
Sean Malloy, Chair
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May 14, 2020

**KUM-KUM BHAVNANI, CHAIR
ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

RE: UC Irvine's Proposal to establish a School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dear Kum-Kum,

UCPB has reviewed UC Irvine's full proposal to establish a School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences. Our lead reviewer's report is attached.

UCPB found that UCI has generally and satisfactorily addressed the concerns UCPB raised in its November 2019 review of the pre-proposal for the School. The full proposal satisfactorily addresses the four Compendium review categories for new schools and colleges: academic rigor, financial viability, need for the program, and fit within the UC system and the segments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Sean Malloy".

Sean Malloy, Chair
UCPB

Encl.

cc: UCPB

Review of UCI School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences (SPPS)

The Senate agreed to UCI's request for an accelerated review of the proposed School of Pharmacy. UCPB reviewed the pre-proposal in November 2019, which flagged several concerns focused on the fiscal viability and the need for a new School of Pharmacy in Southern California, among some more minor questions. It appears that UCPB is reviewing the full proposal simultaneously with the campus review (UCI Council on Planning and Budget) so that UCPB does not have the opportunity to review and understand the concerns raised at the divisional review at UCI. This appears to be due to the time-sensitive nature of securing accreditation for the school so that the Pharm.D students can be enrolled by the fall of 2021. This is essential since the revenue from their tuition/professional fees is required to meet the budget of the school.

The proposed school will be built on a transfer of the Master of Pharmacology SSGPDP (originally proposed by and housed in Pharmacology) and the Pharmacological Sciences MS and Ph.D. programs (formerly shared by the Department of Pharmacology and the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences). The Master of Science in Pharmacology (M.S.P.) program is currently self-supporting.

In addition to housing these extant programs in the new SPPS, there is a plan to develop a second self-supporting graduate professional degree program (SSGPDP). The focus of this second SSGPDP was not defined in the pre-proposal. They now propose to develop a Master of Neuropsychopharmacology (M.N.P.) program. This second online program is proposed to launch in 2022. They selected this focus to "address an unmet need in a major psychological health industry". A brief perusal of offerings in this area around the country suggests that there are several online degree programs already in this space in addition to an academic program, supported by a longstanding NIH T32 grant at the University of Pennsylvania. The target audience for the new M.N.P program is stated to be "working professionals in the neuroscience pharmaceutical industry (particularly in departments of research and development), as well as practicing psychologists seeking licensure for prescriptive authority". Neither of these potential students would be in a position to participate in a full time program so it is unclear who would be the audience for the 1-year timeframe. Five states (not California), including Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, New Mexico, and Louisiana require such Masters in Pharmacology (or its equivalent) for licensure in addition to supervised clinical training and passing a national exam. It is not clear why the current UCI M.S.P. is not sufficient to meet this requirement. How are psychologists in these states who want to prescribe medication currently getting certified? How would the M.N.P program be positioned to attract these students away from the programs they are now using? How will the students in the proposed M.N.P program secure the supervised clinical training? What would be the motivation for the other audience (members of departments of research and development in the neuroscience pharmaceutical industry) to obtain the M.N.P.? Overall, the potential audience for this program is incompletely described, and how this program would compete with existing online offerings in the US is unclear.

The largest new program will be a clinical Pharm.D. program. As noted above, this program is essential to achieve budget targets. In response to reservations about the potential negative impact that establishing a clinical Pharm.D. program and professional school may have on the scholarly productivity of Senate faculty, proposers responded that "the Pharm.D. curriculum will be taught primarily by new clinical faculty hired into the Department of Clinical Pharmacy Practice (DCPP). Faculty within the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (DPS) will teach some basic sciences courses within the Pharm.D. curriculum, and DCPP faculty may teach some courses in the baccalaureate and graduate degree programs. Teaching loads for current faculty will remain balanced". In light of restrictions on hiring throughout the UC, this plan may need to be revised, although these faculty will likely be in the Clinical X series and not Ladder Rank.

In response to UCPB's concern about the need for another UC Pharm.D. program, they respond that creation of a high-quality academic program will provide viable alternatives to extant and emerging "Pharm.D. mills". It is unclear what metrics were used to conclude that "the current mix of existing programs is not able to meet California's future demand for high-quality pharmacy training". What is the evidence that "California is facing a shortage of well-trained clinical pharmacists"? Specifically, what is the evidence that "the number of qualified applicants to California's pharmacy programs exceeds the number of available positions? What is the job market in California for the current cadre of Pharm.D.s? The proposers acknowledge that "there has been a proliferation of pharmacy schools in California...as a result, there are nearly enough seats to accommodate applicant demand. The central premise is that the quality of education embedded in the UC "brand" will attract students away from the for-profit sector. While there is no doubt that the program proposed will provide outstanding clinical training in a research-based UC program at a campus with a medical school and teaching hospitals, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on this sector is evolving and by definition is uncertain.

In response to the collective concerns of UCPB, CCGA, UC Health, and UC Institutional Research and Academic Planning, regarding how the proposed school could significantly increase Ph.D. student enrollment with "no new resources", they now clearly attest that existing resource allocations are sufficient to cover costs associated with the projected Ph.D. enrollment growth.

UC Health questioned the relationship between UCI's Multi-Year Enrollment Plan and projected growth in Pharmacological Sciences Ph.D. enrollments. They respond by noting that the institution's Multi-Year Enrollment Plan proportionately allocates planned growth to general campus and health sciences units, which accommodates the projected enrollment increases in the pharmacological sciences Ph.D. program as it builds to steady state.

In response to UCPB's and UC Health's request for evidence that this SSGPDP will be self-supporting, they state that The M.S.P., which admitted its first cohort in fall 2017, has increased enrollments in 2018 and 2019 and is on track to fully repay the start-up loan in 2021. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on projected enrollment in the M.S.P. and now the M.N.P. is unknown but should be considered. Additional revenue is expected from new philanthropy (\$1M/year) and 3 endowed chairs supported by the \$200 million Samuelli gift to the college of health sciences (all 3 to be hired by 2025).

In response to UCPB's query regarding how the M.D./Ph.D. in Pharmacological Sciences will be integrated with other M.D./Ph.D. programs on the UCI campus, including the NIH-supported MSTP program, it appears that these programs will not be related. Given the unique career challenges and opportunities of M.D./Ph.D. trainees, this seems like a lost opportunity to create a culture of physician scientists focused on mentoring (including peer-mentoring) and career development. In the looming era of resource constraints imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, there could also be opportunities to mitigate administrative costs by exploring more substantive integration of M.D./Ph.D. programs on a single UC campus. It appears that only a single student to date has chosen to pursue *this* M.D./Ph.D. program raising concerns about recruiting a critical mass to comprise a meaningful training program.

Overall, the proposers have generally and satisfactorily addressed the concerns UCPB raised in the review of the pre-proposal, and UCPB approves this proposal. The major development that has emerged in the interim is the Covid-19 pandemic which is already having a significant impact on the UC system. UCPB urges the campus to consider the scope of the proposal in light of the unknown and likely substantial effect of the pandemic on enrollment, recruitment/hiring, philanthropy, and the job market for students who successfully complete the newly proposed degree programs.



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY (UCEP)
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May 4, 2020

**KUM-KUM BHAVNANI, CHAIR
ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**RE: PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL OF PHARMACY & PHARMACEUTICAL
SCIENCES**

Dear Kum-Kum,

UCEP discussed the UCI proposal to establish a School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences during our May 4th videoconference. The committee agrees that the final proposal satisfactorily addresses questions UCEP asked in December about workload, hiring and diversity.

We recommend that Academic Council approve UCI's proposal. In addition, UCEP strongly recommends that UCI develop contingency plans that will enable the School to manage the impact of COVID-19. There are two specific issues to consider:

1. The School's proposed curriculum is solely premised on course content delivered on campus and in the clinical application. How will this new substantial program be implemented if remote learning is required?
2. The proposal involves the hiring of seven additional faculty and includes support from the Provost for this hiring. However, since these plans occurred before COVID-19, UCI should determine how much hiring of new faculty will be feasible now.

UCEP appreciates the opportunity to comment on this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Serences".

John Serences, Chair
UCEP