



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*

May 27, 2020

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

Re: Approval of Dual Degree Master's in Urban and Regional Planning at UCLA

Dear Michael,

In accordance with the *Universitywide Review Processes For Academic Programs, Units, and Research Units* (the "Compendium"), and on the recommendation of CCGA, the Academic Council has approved UC Los Angeles' proposal for a dual degree program with the Institut d'Etudes de Paris that will award the Master's in Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) from UCLA & the Master of Governing the Large Metropolis from the Institut d'Etudes de Paris.

Because this is a new degree title, and the Assembly of the Academic Senate is not meeting within 30 days of CCGA's approval, Council must approve the program per Senate Bylaw 125.B.7.

I am enclosing CCGA's report on its review of the new program, and 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kum-Kum Bhavnani".

Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair
Academic Council

cc: Academic Council
UCLA Senate Director de Stefano
IRAP Analyst Procello
CCGA Analyst Harms



COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (CCGA)

Ramesh Balasubramaniam, Chair
ramesh@ucmerced.edu

ACADEMIC SENATE

University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

May 18, 2020

ACADEMIC SENATE CHAIR KUM-KUM BHAVNANI

Dear Chair Bhavnani,

At its May 6 meeting, the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) voted 8-0-1 to approve a proposal from the UCLA campus for a Dual Degree Program with the Institut d'Etudes de Paris that will award the Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from UCLA & the Master of Governing the Large Metropolis from the Institut d'Etudes de Paris.

UCLA Luskin School's Department of Urban Planning offers a 72-unit, accredited two-year Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) professional degree with about 70-75 students per entering class. The Department proposes to partner with the Urban School at the Institut d'Etudes de Paris (Sciences Po), the premier French social science and public policy university, to allow an annual cohort of 12 graduate students to earn its existing MURP degree as well as Sciences Po's current two-year Master of Governing the Large Metropolis (GLM) degree in an intensive, two-year dual degree program.

The dual degree program will offer graduate students a unique opportunity to pursue an intensive, transatlantic educational experience. The training and skills they will learn through the dual degree will have a greater component of comparative urbanization, comparative urban planning, and comparative urban policy than what the Department is able to provide in its traditional MURP degree, which has a stronger focus on planning in the United States. Sciences Po is an ideal partner for training planners with globally-oriented, comparatively-focused intellectual and professional capabilities.

The two reviewers who evaluated the proposal both responded very positively, noting the reputation of the current MURP at UCLA. As one reviewer put it: "[t]he quality and rigor of the program establish it as a standard-bearer." The proposed joint degree "[b]uilds upon and extends these strengths." This reviewer noted that with the dual degree program, "UCLA will be able to tap a new pool of applicants who otherwise would not consider a traditional MURP degree." The reviewer does note that the recruitment resource of \$700 seems low, and that the proposers may want to revisit that, as general recruitment costs have gone up.

The second evaluator was equally positive, noting: "I think the initiative to offer educational experience in two universities spanning two continents is timely and important [...]" Furthermore, the reviewer noted the excellence of both programs and their being from top-ranking schools. The reviewer was impressed by the structure of the program, including the ability to provide three UCLA faculty advisors for the students. The reviewer further recommended the inclusion of a methods course with a section on conducting comparative research. Overall, the reviewer recommended the program "with much enthusiasm and high expectation."

As you know, CCGA's approval is the last stop of the Academic Senate side of the Systemwide review and approval process except when the new degree title must be approved by the President, under delegated authority from The Board of Regents. I submit this for your review and have enclosed the Lead Reviewer's report. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions regarding the proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Balasubramaniam', with a long, sweeping underline.

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 Assistant Director
Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst
Robin L. Garrell, UCLA Vice Provost and Dean
April de Stefano, UCLA Senate Executive Director
Estrella Arciba, UCLA Senate Analyst

Enclosures (1)

11 May 2020

Prof. Ramesh Balasubramanian
Chair, CCGA, UCOP

Dear Prof. Balasubramanian,

Please accept this as my final report based on my review of the UCLA Luskin School's Department of Urban Planning proposed two-year Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) professional degree with the Urban School at the Institut d'Études de Paris (Sciences Po). Based on the review of the materials that I conducted, including two external letters of review that I solicited from well-known scholars in the field, I recommend approval of this proposal. There is one area, the contribution to diversity, that can be further enhanced, as I specify at the end of my report.

The Department of Urban Planning's MURP degree is a 72-unit, two-year accredited professional degree that combines required core coursework with a required specialization. Students are required to choose a specialization from one of five areas of concentration in a particular area of planning practice. The five areas of concentration (Community Economic Development and Housing; Design and Development; Environmental Analysis and Policy; Regional and International Development; and Transportation Policy and Planning), have both required and elective courses. Students in the dual degree program will meet all the requirements of the MURP degree, including all required core courses as well as all required specialization courses

The proposal is for a dual Master degree. It would involve the UCLA Luskin School's Department of Urban Planning (which offers a 72-unit, accredited two-year Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) professional degree with about 70-75 students per entering class) with the Urban School at the Institut d'Études de Paris (Sciences Po), the premier French social science and public policy university. The plan will allow an annual cohort of 12 UCLA MURP graduate students to earn its existing MURP degree as well as Sciences Po's current two-year Master of Governing the Large Metropolis (GLM) degree in an intensive, two-year dual degree program. The benefit to the student would be to offer an international education; the benefit for UCLA would be to connect with this parallel premier institution. The dual degree program will offer graduate students a

unique opportunity to pursue an intensive, transatlantic educational experience, a special opportunity for URM students who may have had limited travel and international exposure.

The proposers convincingly argue that there is a growing awareness among scholars and practitioners of urban planning that the need for a global and comparative understanding of urban planning processes and practices—such as transnational flows, globalization, international development, city governance, etc.—is necessary for students who are looking for planning careers in large international cities and metropolitan regions. The training and skills they will learn through the dual degree will have a greater component of comparative urbanization, comparative urban planning, and comparative urban policy than what the Department is able to provide in its traditional MURP degree, which has a stronger focus on planning in the United States. Sciences Po is an ideal partner for training planners with globally-oriented, comparatively-focused intellectual and professional capabilities. Sciences Po is a top European university and is widely acknowledged as the leading training ground for French and European public officials. Its GLM degree at the Urban School courses are delivered in English. It is focused on global comparative urbanism, and draws on Sciences Po’s many joint research projects and relationships on several continents.

Applications to the dual degree program will be reviewed by a joint UCLA-Sciences Po admissions committee, composed of an equal number of UCLA Urban Planning and Sciences Po faculty members, with a minimum of two members from each institution. The faculty member directing admissions to the Master’s programs on each side will co-supervise the joint committee. Students will apply to the program through the UCLA Graduate Division Application portal. Sciences Po will provide a link to UCLA’s application on its website.

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The proposers expect that the majority of prospective graduate students will come from diverse backgrounds. 68% of students in the current MURP program are minority students and 39% come from underrepresented backgrounds. It is clear from the proposal materials that the Department is committed to maintaining this diversity and building upon that standard in its dual degree program. **However, one aspect of the proposal to strengthen, and bring in further compliance with the current requirement to provide specific details about the program’s contribution to diversity** is an articulation of (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 clearly document the ways in which the program will evaluate its diversity goals. (Added August 2019.) The plan for recruitment, retention and evaluation of meeting diversity goals, as articulated by one of the reviewers, could be enhanced.

Sincerely,

Erith Jaffe-Berg
Member, CCGA 2019-2020
Prof.
Department of Theatre, Film and Digital Production



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