

University of California
San Francisco



Academic Senate
senate.ucsf.edu

Communication from the Chair

DATE: January 29, 2010

TO: Members of the UCSF Academic Senate Coordinating Committee

FROM: Elena Fuentes-Afflick, MD, MPH, Chair, UCSF Academic Senate

RE: Update from the UCSF Representatives to the UC Commission on the Future Workgroups

As we remain in communication with our colleagues representing UCSF on the Future Workgroups (<http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/>), please find below a summary of each workgroup's efforts to date. If you have feedback or suggestions for any of our representatives in this process, I encourage you to contact our representatives directly with your comments.

UC Commission on the Future – Immediate Past Chair of the Academic Council Mary Croughan

More information is available at this website: <http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/>

Since the last report Mary gave to the UCSF Senate's Coordinating Committee, the Commission Chairs have met once with the co-chairs of the working groups and will meet with them again in February. The full Commission will not be meeting again until March, as the bulk of the work is currently being done in the workgroups.

Access and Affordability Workgroup - UCSF Representative Kevin Grumbach

More information is available at this website: <http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/access.html>

The Access and Affordability Workgroup is considering how to meet California's higher education needs while maintaining access and affordability in the face of diminishing resources. This includes consideration of the relationship of UC with the California State Universities and Community Colleges in providing higher education in California. Fee and financial aid structures will also be considered, as well as the impacts of different scenarios on student access and diversity. The Workgroup is finalizing a set of principles addressing access and affordability of a UC undergraduate education, including draft principles asserting that financial means should not deter any undergraduate student from attending and succeeding at the University of California, and that grant-scholarship sources of financial aid should be set at levels that at a minimum would cover full undergraduate tuition and fee costs for students from families below the median California household income. A subcommittee met this week to begin drafting a set of principles to address access and affordability for graduate and professional school education at UC, and these principles will be incorporated into the Workgroup's final overall report. The subcommittee principles will address the rapid recent growth in UC professional school fees, the impact of these fees on professional student recruitment, the adverse consequences of high educational indebtedness on career options for professional school graduates.

Education and Curriculum Workgroup - UCSF Representative Molly Cooke

More information is available at this website: <http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/education.html>

The Education and Curriculum Workgroup has been meeting by phone regularly in the last month. The next in-person meeting will be held in the first half of February in Oakland. The Workgroup's focus has been to identify cost-reduction recommendations that would be immediately implementable by the time of the interim report of the working group chairs to President Yudof in mid-March. The Workgroup spends most of their efforts on undergraduate campuses and programs. General issues under consideration include: alternate models of delivering instruction; strategies for reducing time to degree; and faculty and use of instructors.

Funding Strategies Workgroup - UCSF Representative David Gardner

More information is available at this website: <http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/funding.html>

The Funding Strategies Workgroup has held three meetings to date and has another four scheduled through April. The Workgroup's efforts are focused on identifying opportunities likely to generate additional revenue for the University. Each is then prioritized on a scale of 1-5 based on the ability to generate significant revenue, efficiency and feasibility. About 20-30% were in the highest category and about 20% in the next highest category. The Workgroup will focus on the top 40% (items in the 4-5 range). They include:

1. Student Fees – increasing undergraduate fees, possibly increasing graduate fees; differential fees for specific programs (e.g. business and engineering); differential fees for campuses; increasing out-of-state tuition.
2. State funding – how best to lobby the state legislature for our fair share of the state tax revenue; specific capital bond issues; specific tax for higher education.
3. Federal funding – renegotiate indirect cost rates; Yudof has proposed coming up with a new model for federal participation in higher education.
4. Administrative efficiencies – already underway at UCOP; how to leverage the participation of 10 individual campuses to promote additional cost savings.
5. Alternative sources of revenue – partnering with industry.

Retirement and post employment benefits was on the original list, but was taken off because the Post Employment Benefits Task Force is working on the issue.

Research Strategies Workgroup – Co-Chair Mary Croughan and UCSF Representative Stanley Prusiner

More information is available at this website: <http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/research.html>

The Research Strategies Workgroup has divided itself into subgroups to work on the following four areas:

- Defining the Research Mission and Principles of UC
- Strategies for UC Internal Research Funding and Management
- Barriers, Challenges, Incentives and Support for UC Research
- Recommend a Funding Model for UC Research

Preliminary reports from each subgroup will be reviewed on February 8. The subgroups will continue to meet weekly until the in-person meeting of the full Workgroup on February 26. At the in-person meeting, the Workgroup will determine those areas in which final reports can be developed for the March deadline, as well as those that still require additional work or data. The Workgroup will continue to work on those topics until the June/July deadline.

Topics under consideration by the subgroups include, and are not limited to, the following:

- The importance of faculty and graduate student recruitment and retention
- The role and impact of graduate education on research
- Improving the research infrastructure for UC faculty

- Collaboration with industry

Size and Shape Workgroup - UCSF Representative Deborah Greenspan

More information is available at this website: <http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/sizeofuc.html>

The Size and Shape Workgroup focuses on issues related to the size and shape of UC in the future. Issues under consideration include, but are not limited to, the size of undergraduate and graduate programs, education models and academic offerings across the UC system. This Workgroup has divided itself into two groups: one is considering issues internal to UC and the other is considering issues external to UC. The Workgroup will submit its report to the Commission in March 2010. Its most recent meeting was held on January 29.

For more detailed information about the Commission or any of the Workgroups, please refer to the UC Commission on the Future website: <http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/welcome.html>. I encourage you to contact any of our UCSF representatives to the Commission and its Workgroups with your ideas or concerns.