MINUTES


ABSENT: Mark Courey, Christan Vaisse, Sergio Baranzini, JoAnne Saxe, Lixian Zhong

GUESTS: Dan Lowenstein, Louise Aronson

The Graduate Council was called to order by Chair Raffai on February 9, 2012 at 2:35 p.m. A quorum was present.

The minutes of January 12, 2012 were approved.

Chair’s Report – Robert Raffai

Topics discussed at the recent CCGA meeting include:

• the approval of an online MS in Engineering from UC Riverside.
• Chancellor Desmond-Hellmann’s proposal to the UC Regents for a working group to explore changes to UCSF’s current governance structure and financial relationship with the University of California system.
• the rise of additional self-supporting (SS) programs across the System and specific agreements made by individual campus Deans about what campus resources will be allocated to SS programs.
• UCSD is seeking approval from UCOP to affiliate itself with California Western School of Law or possibly to acquire the law school! Does UC need another law school? California Western is currently the target of lawsuits from unemployed alumni. It’s not clear what UCSD would gain from an association with California Western.

Vice Chair’s Report

None.

Dean’s Report – Joseph Castro

Dr. Elizabeth Watkins, director of graduate studies for the History of Health Sciences program and a professor in the Department of Anthropology, History, and Social Medicine has been named Dean of the Graduate Division. She will take office on April 1, 2012.
Senate Analyst’s Report – Alison Cleaver
The Committee on Research has a larger than usual grant available for anything related to eye research in the upcoming Resource Allocation Program (RAP). The Committee typically funds $30k but this cycle will include grants up to $50k for anything that may have a complication involving the eyes such as diabetes, AIDS, or social and behavioral research studying the effects of blindness, etc.

Postdoctoral Scholars – Christine DesJarlais
Our Institutional Research and Career Development (IRACDA) Post-doc fellowship grant is up for competitive renewal; we are hosting a site visit of the NIGMS on February 22.

Due to confusion among post-docs around total compensation (salary, benefits, etc.) and withholding issues, we are hosting a tax consultation event for post-docs to address some common issues. The tax workshop will be held on February 21. A tax manager from UCOP will be present to discuss typical post-doc tax scenarios and take questions.

Graduate Students’ Association (GSA) Report – Jason Tien, GSA Representative
In January the GSA hosted a formal with students from the professional schools.

In March and April the GSA will be hosting events for Career and Research Days. This will include and alumni dinner and a poster session.

The GSA student Regent is hosting a forum on February 18th for students to talk about UC’s budget.

With the professional students the GSA is sponsoring a “Last Lecture” inviting a faculty member to address the question, “what would you say to students if this were your last lecture?”

Postdoctoral Scholars Association Report – Lixian Zhong, PSA Representative
In December the PSA approached a number of departments with post-docs to raise money. The PSA does not have an operating budget; their funds come from donating departments. The PSA is specifically asking departments to donate $20 per post-doc but thus far only five departments have contributed which has generated $6300 for a three year period.

The PSA is also seeking sponsors for their national Post-doc Association Day event that they hold every year and for their holiday party.

The National Post-Doc Association meeting will be held next month.

A post-doc speed-mentoring event was held in January; the event involving 18 faculty and 30 post-docs was very successful and will become an annual event.

New & Ongoing Business
Proposed Changes of the CPBR w/ Dan Lowenstein and Louise Aronson
We are proposing changes in the curricular structure that houses Certificate Program in Biomedical Research, but these changes will not impact the units of the program. Specifically, it will be possible for learners to complete the program either in 12 consecutive months or, depending on their funding source and with permission of a pathways director, by completing separate blocks of 9 and 3 months.

Following a briefing by Lowenstein and Aronson the Council voted to approve the proposed changes.

Peter Taylor, Assistant Dean, Graduate Division
peter.taylor@ucsf.edu; 415-502-3224

Senate Analyst: Kathleen Dargan
kate.dargan@ucsf.edu; 415-476-1308