

Communication from the School of Nursing Faculty Council
Audrey Lyndon, PhD, RN, FAAN, Chair

December 15th, 2016

TO: Ruth Greenblatt, Chair of the UCSF Academic Senate
FROM: Audrey Lyndon, Chair of the School of Nursing Faculty Council
CC: Todd Giedt, Executive Director of the UCSF Academic Senate Office
RE: Review of Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition Policy Revisions

Dear Chair Greenblatt:

The members of the School of Nursing Faculty Council have reviewed the proposed revised policy that would incorporate Regents Policy 3104: Principles Underlying the Determination of Fees for Student of Professional Degree Programs into a revision of Regents Policy 3103: Policy on Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST).

The Council appreciates the opportunity to consult on the policy revision and is supportive of the proposed changes. In particular, the commitment to multi-year planning on a time frame that supports administrative and student planning and the inclusion of both private and public comparator programs are appreciated. These aspects of the policy are expected to support effective program administration within the UCSF School of Nursing. The Council would like to emphasize the importance of including private comparators in evaluating PDST levels. As requested by the Division, the Council would like to provide some background information on the PDST for the Nursing Master of Science program to support the need for continued PDST in the face of uncertain permanent state funding.

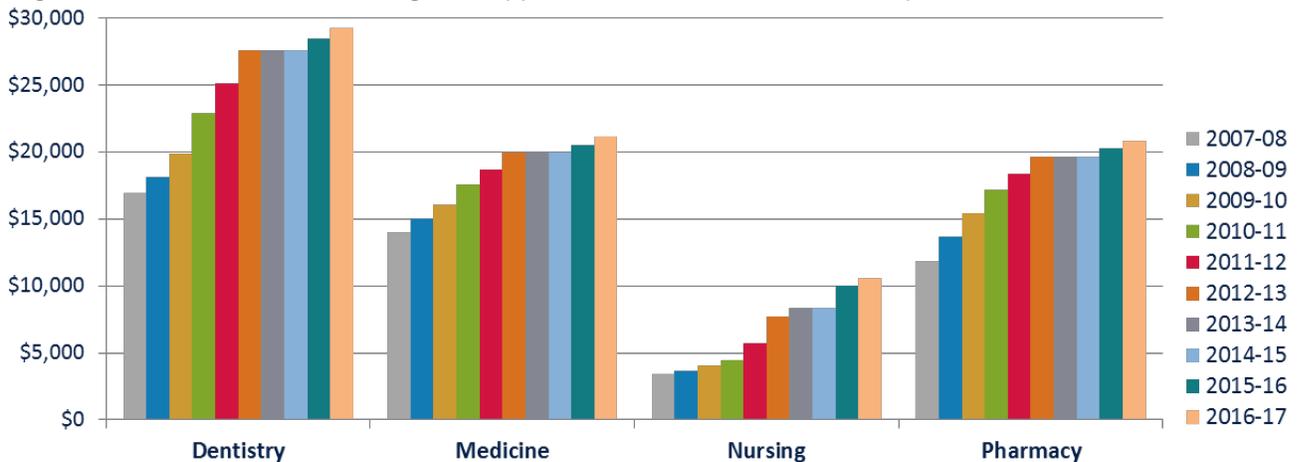
At UCSF's SON, the PDST supports three critical expense areas: financial aid, instructional support, and faculty salaries and benefits. In 2015-2016 339 Master of Science students were assessed PDST, out of 500 students in all programs in the School. The majority of PDST revenue went to Student Financial Aid (\$1,133,277), Student Services (\$653,000) and Instructional Support (\$788,544) with the remaining allocated to faculty salaries and benefits (\$825,000). Reduction in PDST would directly impact these functions. The School of Nursing engaged in significant cost-cutting measures during the recession and continues to engage in continuous improvement of fiscal stewardship. Thus, any reduction in PDST will directly affect students through reduction in financial aid, student services, educational opportunities, and adequate clinical supervision. The present total tuition and fee comparison for resident and non-resident students is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Comparator Schools Total Tuition and Fees

	2015-16	2016-17	% Increase
Residents			
University of Pennsylvania (private)	\$42,016	\$44,117	5%
John Hopkins University (private)	\$39,688	\$41,672	5%
Columbia University (private)	\$37,978	\$39,117	3%
Oregon Health Sciences University (public)	\$27,526	\$28,077	2%
University of Washington (public)	\$25,461	\$25,461	0%
University of Michigan (public)	\$21,282	\$21,708	2%
Public Average	\$24,756	\$25,082	1%
Public and Private Average	\$32,325	\$33,359	3%
University of California, San Francisco	\$26,803	\$27,799	4%
Nonresidents			
University of Washington (public)	\$45,804	\$45,804	0%
University of Michigan (public)	\$43,014	\$43,874	2%
Oregon Health Sciences University (public)	\$32,588	\$33,239	2%
Public Average	\$40,469	\$40,973	1%
Public and Private Average	\$40,181	\$41,304	3%
University of California, San Francisco	\$39,048	\$40,044	3%

Our Master of Science programs in Nursing are designed to educate advanced practice registered nurses, and as such are clinically intensive. Students in our PDST programs are required to be supervised for at least 500-1060 hours of clinical training and often have specific faculty to student ratios for clinical rotations that we are required to maintain by various regulatory agencies. As noted in the attached materials, the four UC Schools of Nursing have maintained a coordinated approach to PDST requests since 2009-2010. At UCSF, the PDST for Nursing is approximately half that charged by Pharmacy, and less than half the PDST of Dentistry and Medicine (Figure 1).

Figure 1: UCSF Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition 2007-2017, by School



There is a projected statewide nursing shortage of as many as 221,000 nurses by 2030, thus the University would ideally be maintaining or increasing enrollments to meet demand for both educating new nurses and educating new faculty to teach nurses. As noted in the briefing materials provided by UCOP, PDST professional programs primarily enroll California residents. Furthermore, over 80% of California residents who graduate from UC's Nursing programs remain in California 5 years after graduation – the highest in-state retention within UC professional degree programs. However, the UC Schools of Nursing have faced shortages in permanent state funding that reduced enrollment overall by 7%, despite the addition of new programs in nursing. UCOP has acknowledged that faculty compensation in the Schools of Nursing is not sufficient to recruit and retain faculty to meet programmatic demands. The UCSF School of Nursing projects a substantial number of retirements over the next decade, which will exacerbate the problem of faculty recruitment and retention if resources are not sufficient to meet compensation needs. Current permanent state funding has not kept pace with expenses for clinical education, and will remain a critical source of funding unless and until state funding is substantially increased.

If you have any questions about the Council's review, please contact me, or Academic Senate analyst Artemio Cardenas artemio.cardenas@ucsf.edu.

Sincerely,

Audrey Lyndon, PhD, RN, FAAN
Chair of the School of Nursing Faculty Council

