

May 18, 2012

**RALPH HEXTER, PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR**

**RE: Academic Master's Tuition Pilot**

Graduate Council and Committee on Planning and Budget swiftly reviewed this issue in late February. The whitepaper enclosed was published on February 24, 2012. The Division understands a decision has been made to proceed with a pilot for one year. Response was optional.

The Davis Division of the Academic Senate forwarded the referenced proposal to all divisional standing committees as well as Faculty Executive Committees within each college/professional school. Comments were received from Graduate Council.

**Majority Consensus:** The sole committee response (GC) remains opposed to distributing tuition funds generated by the pilot program for Academic Master's Program Tuition.

Graduate Council

Graduate Council remains opposed to the proposed approach to distribute tuition funds generated by the pilot program for Academic Master's Program Tuition (see February 20, 2012 memo entitled "Graduate Council Response to "Incentive-Based Budget Model Pilot Project for Academic Master's Program Tuition (Optional)" DRAFT VERSION 1, 02/17/12).

While raising net-new resources has been stated as one objective of the pilot, from Graduate Council perspective assessing how good the communication is between the Deans and the participating programs, given Graduate Council concerns, has now become the most important element of the pilot. We also are interested to what extent net-new resources raised in the pilot will be dedicated to "augment graduate student support funding for Ph.D. programs."

Therefore, Graduate Council wants to know:

- i. to what extent there were beneficial negotiations between the Deans and the participating graduate programs, particularly, with Graduate Groups, and
- ii. what are the plans to use new resources generated towards the benefit of PhD programs and finally determine to what extent this succeeded.

It is important to explicitly express these expected outcomes to the participating programs. In selecting participating programs:

- i. the participants should be selected to ensure that the pilot is created in a manner that the communication and PhD benefit outcomes are tested, and
- ii. Graduate Council should be consulted in the selection process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda F. Bisson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda F. Bisson, Chair  
Davis Division of the Academic Senate  
Professor: Viticulture and Enology

LFB:sas