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February 12, 2014

WILLIAM JACOB, CHAIR

UC Academic Council
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

RE: Draft UC Policy: Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs

The draft Policy on Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs was forwarded to all Davis Division of the Academic Senate standing committees and Faculty Executive Committees from the Schools and Colleges. Responses were received from Graduate Council and the Committees on Research, Planning and Budget, and Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction, as well as from the Faculty Executive Committee from the College of Letters and Science.

The following summarizes responses received:

Graduate Council noted that graduate teaching should not be performed on an overload basis as a standard practice, regardless of whether or not the faculty member is compensated. This principle holds for all graduate programs regardless of funding method. Graduate Council was particularly concerned about whether diversity would be monitored for these programs outside of the standard program review process. Another concern was the treatment of financial accessibility. Graduate Council discussed the desirability of setting a default percentage of total tuition and fees due to financial aid from all sources.

Graduate Council also noted that Item F, regarding Comparable faculty, should clarify that the appropriate share of non-ladder faculty will vary depending on the educational objective of the program. The external and internal pressures for units and advanced degree programs to divert or convert human and infrastructural resources from existing graduate programs to SSGPDPs was also identified as a concern by Graduate Council. Additionally, Graduate Council believes the impact of the SSGPDPs on existing undergraduate and graduate programs should be examined, as these potential effects did not seem sufficiently considered in the documentation received. The modifications from current policy were not completely clear, and Graduate Council would have appreciated that these changes be highlighted to facilitate its analysis of the proposed changes.

The Committee on Planning and Budget agreed with the overall draft Policy. However, the Committee noted that the Policy was not clear as to whether Item F, Comparable faculty, under Section III indicates that the teaching record in a SSGPDP course will be part of the merit and promotion process. If so, that should be more explicitly stated in the Policy.

The Davis Division of the Academic Senate appreciates the opportunity to respond to the draft UC Policy on Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDP).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bruno Nachtergaele".

Bruno Nachtergaele, Chair
Davis Division of the Academic Senate
Professor: Mathematics