



# **Davis Division Academic Senate**

## **Request for Consultation Responses**

### **Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)**

**February 14, 2014**

The Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition Task Force has concluded deliberations and has prepared drafts for review and feedback by appropriate University stakeholders prior to finalizing their recommendations at a March 2014 Task Force meeting. The proposed policy revisions are intended to be presented to the Regents at the May 2014 meeting of the Board. At that time, we will also recommend policy implementation protocols to President Napolitano.

# **Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (EDUCATION)**

**February 14, 2014 3:48 PM**

*Response continued on next page.*

## Council of School & College Faculty Chairs - Education

February 14, 2014 3:30 PM

### Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition Task Force Report

The School of Education Executive Committee discussed this briefly at our recent meeting on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>. We have no formal response at this time.

## **Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (LS: SOC SCI)**

**February 7, 2014 10:36 AM**

The L&S Executive Committee discussed this briefly at our recent meeting, and we have no formal comment. --Phil Shaver, Chair

# Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (MANAGEMENT)

February 10, 2014 4:33 PM

The executive committee of the Graduate School of Management met, deliberated the report, and have following four comments:

1. 1. On page 9, Section VIII, (A), a blanket prohibition against charging PDST for programs offering a Doctor of Philosophy degree is unnecessarily restrictive. Some Doctor of Philosophy degrees are highly professional degrees in areas of financial engineering or business analytics, and so the determination of whether a program offering a Doctor of Philosophy degree (or a Master's degree on a path to a Doctor or Philosophy degree) can charge PDST should be considered on a program-by-program basis. We suggest that the clause (A) be omitted (because point (B) allows for that possibility) or at least modified so as to accommodate the possibility of charging PDST.

2. The appropriate levels of fees/PDST are set in comparisons with those set by peer schools. In addition, there are two other important factors that are currently missing in the proposed protocols. For example, peer schools may not be subject to a 33% revenue financial aid requirement and/or receive greater state support, and thus may be able to charge lower PDST than comparable program would need to. Thus, operating cost differentials and state support differentials need to be taken into account when setting the PSDT fee levels (besides just comparative fees).

3.3. 3. On clause (4), b, (ii) of the Regents Policy 3103, the word "supplant" (i.e., replace) should have been "supplement"?

4. While we support up front financial aid assistance to socioeconomically disadvantaged applicants, we do not see clear rationales for requiring that the financial aid strategy includes loan forgiveness program for students seeking low-paying job opportunities. In other words, we believe that loan forgiveness creates distorted incentives for students.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

# **Graduate Council**

**February 21, 2014 1:40 PM**

*Response continued on next page.*

February 21, 2014

**RFC: Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)**

The Graduate Council accepted the recommendations of the Academic Planning and Development (APD) Committee at its February 21, 2014 meeting in consideration of the afore-mentioned Academic Senate Request for Consultation (AS RFC).

The Academic Planning and Development Committee met on January 17, 2014 and again on February 14, 2014 and considered the above-mentioned Academic Senate Request for Consultation (AS RFC).

The APD committee discussion noted that the process outlined in the proposal was somewhat cumbersome and lengthy with a strict timeline, but also that this was probably necessary in light of assuring that the PDST is a well justified, rare and carefully crafted occurrence.

The Graduate Council submits the recommendations of the APD Committee as accepted by consensus at our meeting as the Council's assessment of the RFC.

Sincerely,



Rachael E. Goodhue, Chair  
Graduate Council

/vm

C: Gina Anderson, Academic Senate Executive Director

# Planning & Budget

**February 24, 2014 10:08 AM**

CPB discussed the report from the Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) Task Force. The committee could not find anything in the document that related the PDST to the actual cost of tuition. It states that the amount charged should allow the unit to 'achieve and maintain excellence so that these programs remain among the best in the country, public or private' - that seems like a very far ranging statement. For example, if the campus offers a faculty salary of \$500,000 per year, it will likely attract the best and the brightest, but does that mean we would have to charge a PDST commensurate with achieving that? When the document suggests consultations with students, what is going to convince any student that they need to spend an extra \$15,000 on tuition per year when their debt load is already going to be very high? Perhaps it would be more understandable if the campus told them that \$x is the cost per student of putting on the program. However, that information doesn't seem to be part of this document.