Five-Year Planning Perspectives: Overview of 2014-19 Submissions

The *Five-Year Planning Perspectives* list changes proposed in the academic program at each campus. They include all actions anticipated in the next five years to establish, transfer, consolidate, disestablish or discontinue undergraduate and graduate degree programs as well as schools and colleges. Individually, *Perspectives* contain information that can be useful to campus long-range planning efforts; collectively, they offer an informative snapshot of UC's academic program pipeline. They also are useful for inquiries from state policymakers, agency staff, and various external entities.

Some campus leaders find the UCOP call for these reports a valuable prompt for local planning and articulation of program directions; others question the net benefit of the exercise given the time and effort required. Historically, campuses submitted *Perspectives* data every year. Elimination of annual state reporting requirements with CPEC's closure in 2011, organizational change at UCOP, and a desire to lighten campus reporting burdens led to decisions to forgo data collection in three of the last five years. Henceforth, the plan is to collect data every two years and to request submission in electronic format.

Attached is a file merging *Perspectives* data from all campuses. It provides current plans and the status of proposals from the 2011 *Perspectives* that are no longer pending. For degrees, it includes the title, level, discipline, whether self-supporting, academic unit or action, and current status. It also includes plans for schools and colleges. Discipline groups are those used in UC's [2013 Accountability Report](http://accountability.universityofcalifornia.edu/documents/accountabilityreport13_glossary_technical.pdf) (p. 44, 57, 60; also see [http://accountability.universityofcalifornia.edu/documents/accountabilityreport13_glossary_technical.pdf](http://accountability.universityofcalifornia.edu/documents/accountabilityreport13_glossary_technical.pdf), p. 173 – UC Corporate Data). Finally, since the Compendium focuses on degree programs, schools, and colleges, we have not included information on minors, new specializations within existing degree programs, or departments that some campuses provided as part of their submissions. UC Merced is in the midst of creating a strategic academic plan, and its *Perspectives* should be considered more preliminary than most.

This overview highlights significant Universitywide trends, including the disciplinary distribution of new program proposals (in aggregate and by campus). Comparison to disciplinary distribution of degrees awarded (graduate academic, graduate professional, undergraduate) provides context for proposals in the pipeline.

**Rebound in total numbers of new program proposals in planning pipeline.** There are 199 proposals to establish new programs, up from 162 in 2011. Aggregate proposals had dropped off sharply after 2009, likely reflecting dramatic cuts in state funding. To the extent proposals are more likely to emerge in a stable fiscal environment, the increase in proposals is consistent with UC's improved budget outlook, including expectation of modest increases in annual appropriations over the next few years. Three-quarters of the new program proposals are at the graduate level: 97 graduate academic, 53 graduate professional, and 49 undergraduate. This breakdown parallels that for the 2009 and 2011 *Perspectives*.

**Significant growth in self-supporting graduate professional degree programs (SSGPDPs).** UC currently has 56 self-supporting programs; another 56 are under consideration systemwide. This figure represents more than a third of the total number of graduate proposals in the pipeline and is a significant increase from the previous *Perspectives* where only 14% of graduate proposals listed (20 of 145) were identified as self-supporting. (This information was not collected prior to 2011.) UCLA has the greatest number of self-supporting proposals (21) followed by UC San Diego and UC Irvine (8 each).
terms of anticipated degree titles, 33 of the SSGPDP proposals are listed as MA or MS programs; three others may elect to use one of these titles or the MAS title.

Moving from the pipeline to approved actions, the University established a dozen new SSGPDPs since this data was last collected in 2011. In addition to programs that have long been offered on a self-supporting basis (e.g., Executive MBAs), those recently approved include master's degrees in specialized professional areas such as finance, engineering, and professional accountancy as well as Masters of Advanced Study degrees in a variety of fields. Recent growth is part of a long-term trend. The first self-supporting program was established in 1972 with the second one following nine years later. UC added ten more between 1981 and 1997; the remaining 44 were approved since that time.

Graduate Academic Programs

Disciplinary Distribution - Proposals & Degrees

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Academic</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engr &amp; Comp Sci</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Number of SYPP Proposals by Campus & Discipline (2014)
(UC-Wide total = 97 proposals)

Graduate Academic Programs: Nearly half of all proposals systemwide are for new graduate academic programs (97 of 199). This group includes proposals for 38 new PhDs, four of which are joint programs with other institutions.

Arts & Humanities and Engineering & Computer Science are the areas with the greatest number of graduate academic proposals (27 and 19 respectively). UC Irvine and UCLA have the most Arts & Humanities proposals (10 and 8) while UC Merced has the most Engineering & Computer Science proposals (5). Relative to degrees awarded, the proportion of proposals is greater in Arts & Humanities and in "other academic" areas; the proportion of proposals is smaller in Engineering & Computer Science, Physical Sciences, and Social Sciences. The Life Sciences represent roughly the same proportion of proposals as degrees awarded.
Graduate Professional Programs: Just over one-quarter of the proposals systemwide are for new professional degree programs (53 of 199). This group includes five new professional doctorates (including a Doctor of Nursing Practice [DNP] involving four campuses) and seven proposals that would combine a professional doctorate (Doctor of Audiology [AuD], Doctor of Pharmacy [PharmD], Juris Doctor [JD]) with a PhD program.

Twenty-three of the graduate professional proposals are in “other health” fields which include nursing, pharmacy, public health, physician assistant programs, and global health among others. Not surprisingly these proposals are clustered at UC San Francisco and other campuses with medical schools. Compared to degrees awarded, the relatively large proportion of proposals for other health programs clearly reflects the increasing specialization within the health professions. By contrast, the proportion of new program proposals in business and medicine is relatively smaller than their representation among total professional degrees awarded. These programs are well-established within UC and not expanding to the same extent.
Undergraduate Programs: About a quarter of the proposals systemwide are for new undergraduate programs (49 out of 199). Relative to degrees awarded, only a small proportion of proposals is in the Social Sciences. In contrast, nearly 40% of proposals for new undergraduate degrees are in the Arts and Humanities and almost 20% are in the Life Sciences. Proposals in each of these categories span a wide range of subdisciplines, though there are a couple of common themes: area studies, particularly the Middle East, for Arts & Humanities; environmental and sustainability studies for the Life Sciences. Still building its core academic programs, UC Merced has the largest number of proposals for new programs at the baccalaureate level (12) followed by UC San Diego (8) and both UC Irvine and UC Santa Barbara (6 each).

The campuses established 68 programs—12 undergraduate and 56 graduate—since Perspectives were last submitted in spring 2011. Significant budget reductions at that time created an expectation among some internal and external constituencies that UC “should” experience a drop-off in new programs being established and a marked increase in the number being discontinued. Growth in self-supporting graduate professional degree programs appears to have offset at least some reductions that might otherwise have been anticipated in the number of new programs established in the past three years. Campuses reported discontinuation or closure of 15 programs in that same period. According to current lists, more are planned: a dozen at the undergraduate level and 8 at the graduate level.

Of equal importance are campus proposals to reorganize, consolidate or otherwise modify academic units. There are a few efforts underway such as that to consolidate East Asian majors at UC Irvine as well as Earth, Planetary & Space Sciences majors at UCLA. A previous proposal to consolidate UCLA’s European languages departments was withdrawn. UC Riverside is reorganizing the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences which could result in a split of the college or other form of redesign. Though information on departments is not part of the formal Perspectives requests, a few campuses noted actions planned or already taken to disestablish or restructure campus departments.

Office of the Provost
Institutional Research & Academic Planning
Plans for new schools are limited and a handful of proposals under consideration only a few years ago are unlikely to proceed. The proposals for new schools include three on the UC Merced list (management, public health/medicine, and environment/anthropocene), one for UC Irvine (public health), and one for UC San Francisco (global health sciences). Previous entries for other campuses have been withdrawn, including Seventh College and a law school (Cal Western merger) for UC San Diego as well as a nursing school for UC Irvine.