

November 10, 2014

To: Jose Wudka, Chair
Riverside Division

From: John S. Levin, Chair
Executive Committee, Graduate School of Education

Subject: Systemwide Review: Doctoral Student Support Proposals and Recommendations

The Graduate School of Education Executive Committee was asked by the chair to review the document “Doctoral student support review (October 30/14).” The item did not reach discussion at our monthly meeting in November, and thus committee members were asked to review the document individually and send comments to the Chair. Responses included the following:

1. Non-resident supplemental tuition (NRST): This is an important area if we are to increase graduate programs at UCR, particularly not charging after the first year and not charging NRST to faculty grants.

2. Net stipend and multi-year support: We are supportive of these goals, particularly so that UCR can offer competitive stipends in a coordinated way. We are particularly keen on multi-year support packages, especially for areas, such as GSOE, that do not have large on-going grants to support students.

3. Professional development: We recognize the challenge of graduate student employment placement. We have doubts that a centralized career portal will be useful for graduate students who are savvy with gathering information online on their own. How would this be different from UCR's GradSuccess program? There is already a list of websites on the GradSuccess webpage where graduate students could search for academic and non-academic jobs. We are, however, supportive of professional development activities for graduate students that might socialize them to the professoriate at different kinds or types

of higher education institutions (e.g., research oriented, teaching oriented).

4. Diversity proposals. We support increasing diversity among graduate students. The idea of a UC-wide effort has merit. Our support extends to faculty diversity, without which graduate student diversity is problematical. The make-up of departments must be considerably different in ethnicity in order to attract and retain a diverse graduate student population. This should be the immediate goal.

The challenge for much of this is the securing of resources to pay for these initiatives. Perhaps as a whole the initiatives are overly ambitious and goal priorities should be established, attached with actions and corresponding costs and revenue sources.

John S. Levin