Greetings,

Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) is additional mandatory tuition assessed to students enrolled in designated graduate professional degree programs. The Office of the President is requesting feedback on a proposed revised policy that would incorporate items from the two PDST policies into a single revision of the policy.

Specifically, there currently are two Regents policies that directly address Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition:

1. Regents Policy 3103: POLICY ON PROFESSIONAL DEGREE SUPPLEMENTAL TUITION
2. Regents Policy 3104: PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING THE DETERMINATION OF FEES FOR STUDENTS OF PROFESSIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

It is proposed that (a) the two policies be combined and revised as Regents Policy 3103, (b) Regents Policy 3104 be rescinded, and (c) these proposed actions be considered for approval at the March 2017 meeting of the Regents.

Please see the link below for the current PDST policy documents, the proposed policy, along with a briefing on the changes as provided by the Office of the President: [http://www.senate.ucla.edu/documents/ProfessionalDegreeSupplementalTuitionPDSTPolicy.pdf](http://www.senate.ucla.edu/documents/ProfessionalDegreeSupplementalTuitionPDSTPolicy.pdf).

Here is a list of UCLA professional degree programs: [http://registrar.ucla.edu/Fees-Residence/Annual-Fees](http://registrar.ucla.edu/Fees-Residence/Annual-Fees)

After reviewing the summary of the policy revision below, please provide feedback on the proposed Regents Policy on Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition by responding to the questions found in this survey: [https://goo.gl/forms/5VhT2urQWLb4fdmH2](https://goo.gl/forms/5VhT2urQWLb4fdmH2).

Sincerely,

Robin L. Garrell
Vice Provost for Graduate Education
Dean Graduate Division

Jeff Roth
Associate Vice Chancellor
Office of Academic Planning & Budget
Summary of PDST Policy Revision

**Purpose** – The policy revision is intended to achieve the following:

a. Reaffirm the principles guiding the PDST, viz. excellence, access, inclusion, and affordability
b. Increase the predictability of PDST levels from year to year
c. Support “right sizing” of the PDST levels from year to year
d. Engage Regents in meaningful consideration of PDST levels for each graduate professional degree program charging the PDST
e. Establish policy that works well without resorting to frequent approvals of exceptions to policy
f. Focus on policy, not implementation
g. Assign policy implementation to the UC Provost
h. Establish policy and its implementation that are both effective and efficient for the campuses, the Office of the President, and the Regents

**No Change** – Elements of Regents Policy 3103 and Regents Policy 3104 that are retained in the proposed policy revision include the following:

i. Guiding principles of excellence, access, inclusion, and affordability
j. Development of a multi-year plan for each program charging the PDST
k. Various details about PDSTs (i.e., same graduate professional degree programs (e.g., MBA) at different campuses may have different PDSTs, new and increased PDST income shall not result in corresponding decline in State support for the professional school of the PDST program)
l. Use of comparable graduate professional degree programs at other public and private institutions to analyze costs and performance of UC program
m. Required consultation with campus students, faculty, and academic leaders
n. Responsibilities of the campuses and the UC Office of the President for creating sound multi-year plans

**Proposed Change** – Elements of Regents Policy 3103 and Regents Policy 3104 that are different in the proposed policy revision include the following:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Policy</th>
<th>Proposed Policy</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Change in President’s authority to approve fees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. President has authority to approve annual PDST increases of up to 5%</td>
<td>Removal of President authority to approve fees.</td>
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<td>2. Regents approve any increases greater than 5% or any new fees.</td>
<td>Regents now approve multi-year plan for each program charging PDST.</td>
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<td><strong>If a program has an approved multi-year plan (long-form), removal of annual short-form submission</strong></td>
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<td>3. Campuses submit short-forms in order to request approval of existing fees that are up to proposed fee increase in long form.</td>
<td>Regent’s approval of multi-year plan confers automatic approval for PDST level for each year of the plan that is no higher than approved plan.</td>
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<td><strong>Stronger emphasis on consultation with faculty and students to provide a strong rationale for PDST levels</strong></td>
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<td>4. Plans shall include information as to the views of the unit’s student body and faculty on proposed increases. Information may be obtained in a variety of ways. The information is treated as advisory, but the Regents would view more favorably the PDST proposals that enjoy the support of a unit’s faculty and student body.</td>
<td>President is responsible for ensuring that programs engage in appropriate multi-year planning of PDST levels within the context of principles and goals expressed in the policy and do so in consultation with graduate students, faculty, and program and administrative leadership.</td>
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<td><strong>Change in fee cap and evaluation of fee increases</strong></td>
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<td>5. Total tuition and fees charged are at or below the total tuition and fees charged by comparable degree programs at other comparable public institutions.</td>
<td>Absence of any fixed cap on the PDST level or PDST increase. Instead, PDST levels or increases would be evaluated in light of factors like affordability, accessibility, quality, etc. Furthermore, increases over the rate of inflation would be reviewed under greater scrutiny and require compelling justification for such increases.</td>
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