

November 4, 2004

To: Alison Galloway, Academic Senate Chair
From: Graduate Council
Re: Draft of Long Range Development Plan

Dear Alison,

The following comments arose from the Graduate Council's reading of the draft of the UC Santa Cruz Long Range Development Plan. The Graduate Council found the documents to be well thought-out and carefully composed, and thanks the authors of the plan for their time and devotion. We ask them to consider the following points as they fine-tune the content of the documents.

In light of the Committee on Planning and Budget's June 16, 2004 report on the Long Range Development Plan, the Council has significant reservations about the finalization of the planning capacity figure of 21,000 enrolled students on the main campus. We recognize that the LRDP phrases the plan in terms of the *possibility* of 21,000 students. However, it seems to us that notion of enrolling 21,000 students has not undergone the full process of Senate review. We are concerned that the campus will accept the LRDP enrollment envelope as an approved target, and may eventually move towards it without the appropriate level of Senate review.

The Council shares CPB's concern that an unplanned expansion of this magnitude might come at the expense of graduate and postdoctoral education. The Senate would need to consider the potential financial strain associated with such growth, and its impact on graduate support, graduate workload, and faculty availability for graduate supervision and teaching. Damage to graduate and postdoctoral education would make it more difficult for our campus to achieve its vision of the coupling of first-rank scholarship with unique and broadly-based educational opportunities. We echo CPB's concern that, to the extent the 21,000 figure becomes a target rather than a maximum capacity, it may well become difficult to give appropriate focus to the development of new and dynamic graduate programs that will further the visibility and influence of graduate and post-doctoral education on our campus. Hence, we feel it is essential for the Senate to be given the opportunity to deliberate the 21,000 enrollment envelope identified in the draft LRDP.

In the view of the Council, the short section on Graduate Student housing on page 88 is not fully responsive to the recommendation of the Strategic Futures Committee (from page 3 of their June 25, 2004 final report; italics added) that 'a site for graduate housing and community activities – *as well as the potential for space to locate/consolidate selected academic support services* – should be part of the 2005-2020 LRDP'. The brief section in the LRDP mentions only housing, and nothing about the inclusion and configuration of space for academic support services. Beyond this, the Council feels that the language from the Strategic Futures Committee itself fell a bit short of what the

Council feels to have emerged from recent dialog (such as that generated by the WASC process) as the general consensus of the role of the prospective Graduate College. In particular, the Council believes that the LRDP discussion of the Graduate College should consider facilities for the delivery of instruction and broad-based lectures to the community of Graduate Students, as well as common areas that will encourage contact and interaction between Graduate Students and faculty.

Finally, the Council was quite surprised to read, again on page 98, that 'Existing family student housing facilities (199 units) are nearing the end of their useful lifespan'. On several occasions, the Council has been advised that the relatively high cost of Graduate Student housing on the campus can be accounted for, in part, by the amortization cost of the housing infrastructure. Given this, the Council is dismayed by the notion that a housing project would be built with a mere thirty-year lifespan. The Council is aware of no other housing stock in the nation that is constructed with such a short lifespan. The Council would be interested in understanding why it is that this housing facility is reaching inoperability after such a short period.

We hope these comments are of help to you. Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

All the Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bruce Schumm".

Bruce Schumm, Chair, for the
Graduate Council