SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING
Annual Report, 2016-17

To: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

Constituted in fall 2014, the Special Committee on Development and Fundraising (SCDF) mission recognizes the need for more diverse and active faculty voices in fundraising for the campus. We began with four interlocking aims: to bring a broader range of faculty into direct contact with University Relations (UR) and the fund-raising process; to find innovative ways to support graduate education as well as to enhance graduate student-alumni engagement; to renew the colleges as a campus fund-raising priority, the UCSC college system rather than ten individual units; and to make the UC Santa Cruz culture of philanthropy reflect a coordinated faculty-UR collaboration, better suited to our intellectual interdisciplinarity, less fragmented by departmental and divisional territoriality, and overall more responsive to campus needs and goals.

To these ends, the SCDF developed several projects, in varying stages of completion:

1. Identify faculty-graduate student clusters that represent the current strengths of UC Santa Cruz collaborative research to work with SCDF and UR on creating and presenting a presentation to potential community and industry partners. Our initial pilot project was a collaboration in 2016-17 with a Humanities/Engineering group in Natural Language Processing as well as exploratory work in fall quarter 2016 with a cluster in Atlantic Slaveries. Both of these clusters originated in the under-utilized 2012-13 Faculty Initiated Group Hires (FIGH) that had never issued in any campus hiring. To expand our reach, SCDF issued a general CALL in January 2017 from which we chose two groups with which to work, one in Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) and Wellbeing, the other in Science and Justice. Having met and mapped out timetables with these two faculty clusters, we will continue the collaborations during the 2017-18 academic year. We also plan to issue a new CALL in early fall 2017, aiming for a better response rate than our first CALL produced.

2. Partner with the Graduate Council and Graduate Division on a funding proposal for central planning, coordinating and codifying of professional development programs across campus. There is a growing recognition across campus among faculty, administrators, and students that the current focus on training doctoral students primarily for academic careers is not sufficient to prepare students for postgraduate careers, given the lack of traditional academic jobs in relation to the production of PhDs, and that larger proportions of students prefer careers outside of academic research.

3. Develop a “Distinguished Visiting Professionals” program to bring in leading practitioners to campus, enhancing both graduate education and placement. SCDF is working with the Office of Research to make the UCSC campus culture more open to non-academic professionals from industry, non-profits, and arts organizations. The specific goal is to streamline and coordinate current procedures for hosting Visiting Research Associates/Fellows on campus (to teach selected Master’s classes, be involved
in departments/programs, provide networks for the graduate students, and work with researchers). The larger aim is to enhance graduate career-development by more systematically involving alumni and Silicon Valley companies in graduate programs, disciplinary and interdisciplinary, at UCSC.

4. Partner with the Council of Provosts (CoP) on a project to integrate the colleges with graduate education through the coordinated hiring/support of GSIs and recent PhDs for both core and experimental teaching programs. There are a few local models (Provost David Evan Jones’s program for HAVC graduate students, a Science-in-Residence program for STEM students) but we, SCDF led by CoP, have a more comprehensive vision: a graduate student in residence in each college, for example, could bring in support from Colleges, Housing and Educational Services (CHES), an administrative unit not usually directly involved in the academic mission, and most important, would strengthen the vision of shared academic-student life that defines the college system.

5. Partner with IT on the UCSC Experts’ List: we continue to add new faculty entries to this list, enabling the media, campus administrators, campus visitors, and others to contact faculty with appropriate areas of expertise for interviews, information, etc. A standard resource in most large universities, our list went online in December 2015 and is now in its second phase.

As a Senate committee with a campus-wide purview, the SCDF has a mandate that we will continue to use to help coordinate these different disciplinary and administrative efforts. Our committee aims specifically to incorporate graduate education and faculty research into campus development and fundraising.

Respectfully submitted;
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING
Ben Carson
Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz                 Keith Brant, sits with
Susan Strome
Noah Wardrip-Fruin
Erika Zavaleta
Ólóf Einarsdóttir, ex officio
Susan Gillman, Chair

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1 The list may be viewed at http://campusdirectory.ucsc.edu/expertise