

The Regents of the University of California

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

March 18, 2026

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee met on the above date at the UCSF-Mission Bay Conference Center, San Francisco campus.

Members present: Regents Anguiano, Batchlor, Brooks, Hernandez, Sarris, and Wang; ex officio members Milliken and Reilly, Advisory members Melton, Palazoglu, and Scott; Chancellors Frenk, Gillman, Hu, and Larive

In attendance: Regents Chu, Cohen, Komoto, Kounalakis, Makarechian, and Robinson, Staff Advisor Hanson, Secretary and Chief of Staff Lyall, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Bustamante, Provost Newman, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava, Senior Vice President Turner, Vice President Brown, Chancellors Assanis, Hawgood, Khosla, Lyons, and Muñoz, and Recording Secretary Li

The meeting convened at 2:00 p.m. with Committee Vice Chair Sarris presiding.

Committee Vice Chair Sarris began the meeting by commending the work of Regent Emeritus Leib as Committee Chair.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2026 were approved, Regents Anguiano, Batchlor, Brooks, Hernandez, Sarris, and Wang voting “aye.”¹

2. APPROVAL OF MULTI-YEAR PLANS FOR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE SUPPLEMENTAL TUITION FOR FOUR GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

The President of the University recommended approval of the multi-year plans for charging Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) for the programs shown in Display 1.

¹ Roll call vote required by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act [Government Code §11123(b)(1)(D)] for all meetings held by teleconference.

DISPLAY 1: Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition Levels¹ for Four Programs

	Current Level		Proposed Levels			
	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>	<u>2027-28</u>	<u>2028-29</u>	<u>2029-30</u>	<u>2030-31</u>
Dentistry, Los Angeles						
Resident PDST Level	\$35,067	\$36,822	\$38,661	\$40,593	\$42,621	\$44,751
Nonresident PDST Level	\$35,067	\$36,822	\$38,661	\$40,593	\$42,621	\$44,751
Nursing, Irvine						
Resident PDST Level	\$14,814	\$15,555	\$16,332	\$17,148	\$18,003	\$18,900
Nonresident PDST Level	\$14,814	\$15,555	\$16,332	\$17,148	\$18,003	\$18,900
Pharmacy, Irvine						
Resident PDST Level	\$37,662	\$40,299	\$43,116	\$46,134	\$49,362	\$52,815
Nonresident PDST Level	\$37,662	\$40,299	\$43,116	\$46,134	\$49,362	\$52,815
Pharmacy, San Francisco						
Resident PDST Level	\$34,160	\$35,868	\$37,660	\$39,540	\$41,520	\$43,596
Nonresident PDST Level	\$34,160	\$35,868	\$37,660	\$39,540	\$41,520	\$43,596

¹ The amounts reflect the maximum PDST levels to be assessed, effective as of the academic year indicated. Assessing PDST levels less than the level indicated requires approval by the President with the concurrence of the Chancellor. PDST levels may be assessed beyond the period covering the program's approved multi-year plan but not in excess of the maximum levels specified in the final year.

[Background material was provided to Regents in advance of the meeting, and a copy is on file in the Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff.]

Provost Newman stated that each of four professional degree programs assessing Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) has submitted a multi-year plan for consideration and has committed to waiving PDST for students who are eligible for the Native American Opportunity Plan.

Kate Glassman, Director of Operating Budget, introduced the four programs seeking approval for their PDST plans: Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) programs at UC Irvine and UCSF, the Master's Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN) at UC Irvine, and the Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) program at UCLA. These programs currently had approved multi-year plans that expired at the end of the 2025–26 academic year. All program proposals were compliant with Regents Policy 3103: Policy on Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition.

Kathleen Giacomini, Dean of the UCSF School of Pharmacy, stated that the pharmacy profession and healthcare landscapes were changing rapidly. Pharmacists administered over 70 percent of COVID-19 vaccines during the pandemic, and pharmacists were the most available healthcare professionals across the state, especially in rural California. UCSF's PharmD program prepared students for a broad range of careers in pharmacy, with a focus on direct patient care, and sought to produce pharmacists with strong science backgrounds and excellent critical thinking skills and who were equipped to serve diverse patients with a range of healthcare needs and priorities. The program's three-year, year-round curriculum shortened the time spent in school, reducing financial hardships on students and allowing them to enter the job market and post-graduate training programs one year earlier than students in a four-year curriculum. The program proposed an annual five percent increase in PDST for the next five years.

Sharon Youmans, Executive Vice Dean of the UCSF School of Pharmacy, stated that the proposed PDST would go toward outreach and recruitment initiatives, educational technologies, student services, professional development, and faculty retention strategies. Outreach and recruitment were essential to maintaining a diverse pipeline of students and would be expanded to local colleges and high schools and social media platforms. The program returned 33 percent of PDST revenue to need-based aid and worked aggressively to solicit funding for student scholarships. Over 90 percent of the student body received some combination of scholarships and need-based financial support. Average student debt has decreased over time; student indebtedness was the lowest in 2024–25 since 2013–14.

Jan Hirsch, Dean of the UC Irvine School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, stated that the UCI PharmD program launched in fall 2021 and received full accreditation status in July 2025. The majority of the program's first class, which graduated in spring 2025, have passed national and State licensure examination, and nearly 80 percent were employed. The program's student body was over 90 percent California residents, about 50 percent of students received Pell Grants as undergraduate students, and over 40 percent of students were first-generation students. Over the next five years, the program proposed a seven percent annual increase in PDST. These funds would help the program reach its quality, access and affordability goals, as well as its enrollment target of 250 total students. Faculty and staff were being recruited to maintain the ten-to-one student-to-faculty ratio. The program would continue to allocate 43 percent of PDST revenues to return-to-aid, 63 percent of which would be need-based aid. PDST funds would enable the program to lower out-of-pocket costs for all students by providing supplies, professional development, and travel stipends. Since the school and the program were both new, resources to address program costs were limited, UCI was dedicated to developing new revenue streams, including philanthropy, to support program expenses.

Regent Brooks asked about the length of the program. Ms. Hirsch replied that this was a four-year program.

Regent Brooks asked if there were plans to help students who would struggle financially even after receiving financial aid. Ms. Hirsch replied that UCI was looking to develop more philanthropic support and revenue streams to increase aid.

Mark Lazenby, Dean of the UC Irvine School of Nursing, stated that the MEPN was a two-year program to obtain licensure as a registered nurse for graduates with non-nursing bachelor's degrees, with a concentration in community and population health. California faced a projected shortage of 65,000 nurses by 2037, and for fall 2025, the program received more than 560 applications for 40 seats. To address these two demands in fall 2026, MEPN would expand each cohort to 60 students, bringing total enrollment to 120. The program proposed five percent annual PDST increases over five years to address programmatic needs such as sustained growth in clinical faculty salaries and benefits and increasing simulation and training costs. MEPN set aside 33 percent of PDST revenue for need-based aid, as 67 percent of the student body demonstrated financial need. The program also provided donor-funded merit scholarships, emergency grants, and moving grants, ensuring that 100 percent of students receive some financial support. California

nurses earned competitive salaries, and 100 percent of MEPN graduates were employed within months of licensure.

Paul Krebsbach, Dean of the UCLA School of Dentistry, stated that the school was now in its 61st year and one of two public dentistry schools in the state. The DDS program was a four-year program that admitted 88 students per year for a total of 352 students. Eight years ago, Dr. Krebsbach launched a community-based clinical education program, through which fourth-year students provided care at Federally Qualified Health Centers and community clinics in the Central Valley and South Central Los Angeles. This reflected the school's alignment with the University's mission to advance health, expand access to care, and prepare students to see patients from across the state. The DDS program sought a five percent increase in PDST over a five-year period. PDST revenues would be used to maintain program quality by supporting faculty and staff compensation, filling vacant positions, and adding one new staff member in student services. The program planned to set aside 33 percent of PDST revenue for return-to-aid, the majority of which would be need-based aid. In response to rapidly changing technology in dentistry, PDST would also support technological upgrades such as three-dimensional scanners, printers, and dental milling machines.

Committee Vice Chair Sarris observed a decline in the enrollment of Pell Grant recipients in three of the four programs and asked if the presenters had insight into this. Dr. Krebsbach stated that the DDS program also observed this decline and was also concerned. The program did not receive Pell Grant information but took a holistic approach to admission. In the past decade, Pell Grant recipient enrollment averaged around 40 percent. Even without Pell Grant data, applicants could indicate whether they were first-generation students. Ms. Newman added that students were aware of forthcoming limitations in borrowing, which would place more pressure on financial aid. She was heartened that there were no increases in student debt.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the President's recommendation and voted to present it to the Board, Regents Anguiano, Batchlor, Hernandez, Milliken, Reilly, Sarris, and Wang voting "aye" and Regent Brooks abstaining.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff