

April 7, 2021

Shane White, Chair  
Academic Senate

**Re: 2020–2025 Five-Year Planning Perspectives**

Dear Chair White,

At its meeting on March 29, 2021, the Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) had an opportunity to review and discuss the 2020-2025 Five Year Planning Perspectives.

The CPB members had the following observations:

1. UCLA has more programs than other campuses.
2. There is an important change with respect to the number of doctoral programs. While in years past UCLA had many PhD programs, it is expanding its Master's degree offerings.
3. Self-Supporting Programs (SSPs) are multiplying at an accelerated pace. Members noted that it would be helpful to include data to help understand the context in which the new programs are proposed. How many programs already exist and how many students are being served by these new programs? What weight do these SSPs carry?
4. Moreover, CPB wishes to underscore that self-supporting programs might harm the state-supported programs. A shift of emphasis to SSPs from PhDs might affect the UCLA brand institutionally, reflecting a long-term change in priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to review. If you have any questions for us, please do not hesitate to contact me at [groeling@comm.ucla.edu](mailto:groeling@comm.ucla.edu) or via the Council's analyst, Elizabeth Feller, at [efeller@senate.ucla.edu](mailto:efeller@senate.ucla.edu).

Sincerely,



Tim Groeling, Chair  
Council on Planning and Budget

cc: Jody Kreiman, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Academic Senate  
Michael Meranze, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate  
April de Stefano, Executive Director, Academic Senate  
Elizabeth Feller, Principal Policy Analyst, Council on Planning and Budget  
Members of the Council on Planning and Budget