

February 15, 2023

TO: Andrea Kasko, Chair, Academic Senate

FR: Sarah Kareem, Co-Chair, Academic Program Review Committee
Fernando Torres-Gil, Co-Chair, Academic Program Review Committee

RE: **UCLA Report of the Joint Task Force on the Future of Graduate Programs and Graduate Student Support**

At its January 24, 2024 meeting, the Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) discussed the UCLA Report of the Joint Task Force on the Future of Graduate Programs and Graduate Student. Specifically, discussion centered on the recommendation to include an assessment of cohort sizes as part of the self-review process in academic program reviews. Members shared the following comments for the Executive Board's consideration.

The report refers to "appropriate cohort sizes" as an item to consider in the review process. Members questioned whether there would be a central definition for what "appropriate" would entail as academic units may have varying interpretations. For instance, members noted that the appropriate number of students may differ depending on factors such as teaching load, resource constraints, and market size for job placement in the field. Members also highlighted that disciplines across the campus may have disparate needs.

Members noted that the issue of cohort size sometimes comes up organically in the review process. The committee will continue to monitor this issue in upcoming reviews.

If you have any questions, please contact us at ProgramReview@senate.ucla.edu or via the committee analyst, Conrad Alumia, at calumia@senate.ucla.edu.

cc: Conrad Alumia, Senior Policy Analyst, Academic Senate
Kathleen Bawn, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Academic Senate
Jessica Cattelino, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate
April de Stefano, Executive Director, Academic Senate