



## Resolution Regarding Membership of the UCLA Graduate Students Association for the 2018-19 Academic Year

### Sponsor(s):

Michelle Ellis Viorato (External Vice President, UCLA GSA)

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**WHEREAS,** The University of California, Los Angeles Graduate Student Association (UCLA GSA) is the official representative body of the more than 14,000 graduates who attend the Los Angeles campus of the University of California;

**WHEREAS,** In 2009, the UCLA GSA Forum voted to terminate its membership with UCSA as advised by the then-Vice President of External Affairs Monica Sanchez who served as the UCLA GSA voting member on the UCSA Board of Directors;

**WHEREAS,** UCLA GSA articulated its concerns and reasons for terminating membership in various GSA Forum meetings throughout 2009 among them including: Lack of sufficient GSA funds and the then-GSA Forum's inability of seeing a return of investment from UCSA; and

**WHEREAS,** In 2016-17 academic year, UCLA GSA was granted a one-year fee waiver to and participated as a member of the UCSA Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS,** the UCSA board granted UCLA GSA an additional one-year fee waiver during the 2017-18 academic year to continue as a member of this organization; and

**WHEREAS,** During the course of the past academic year, UCLA GSA student leaders were committed to leading and participating in ad-hoc committees that focused on the future of graduate student representation in UCSA,

**WHEREAS,** UCLA GSA's External Affairs office has had a positive experience as a member of the board, and has seen a strong investment in the graduate advocacy on the part of the UC Student Association; and

**WHEREAS,** The current UCLA GSA Executive Cabinet has continued to be communication with the UCSA Executive Committee on addressing the original concerns presented by the then-GSA Forum and plans to reevaluate its relationship with UCSA over the course of the 2018-19 academic year; and

**WHEREAS,** Due to the currently weak state of financial affairs at the UCLA GSA and the non-existent fee structure to commit funds to any system-wide organizations at this time, the External Affairs office is unable to provide any membership dues to the UC Student Association.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association affirms its recognition of the concerns expressed by UCLA GSA in 2009 in its resolution terminating membership and remains committed to addressing concerns articulated by associations and the students they represent;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association invokes Article IV, Section F, Subsection 2 of its Charter and hereby waives membership dues for the

University of California, Los Angeles Graduate Student Association for the 2017-2018 term so as to confer good standing for the period stated herein;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association recognizes UCLA GSA will make active progress to build good relations with UCSA and continue educating students about the organization and its campaigns; and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association affirms UCLA GSA will be given full UCSA membership without the immediate commitment to rejoin for the 2019-2020 academic year;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association enact this resolution on the condition that if UCLA GSA decides not to commit to full membership through appropriations from their respective operating budgets, UCLA GSA's UCSA membership will terminate at the end of the 2019-2020 academic year;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That UCLA GSA will consult with the UCSA executive team and the UCSA staff to determine alternative methods for graduate student representation in the UCSA space, while acknowledging that paying UCSA membership fees may serve as a significant obstacle this academic year,

**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association direct its President to meet with the External Vice President of UCLA GSA at least once a quarter to ensure that UCLA GSA's original concerns and reasons for leaving UCSA are addressed and to ensure that any future concerns of UCLA GSA with UCSA are properly handled.