



320 STEPHENS HALL
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

November 16, 2010

FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS AT UC BERKELEY

Subject: Renaming Fees as Tuition

Last spring, the Commission on the Future initiated discussion of a recommendation to rename fees as tuition. In that recommendation, the renaming was articulated as a truth in advertising measure, and also as a way for veterans to avoid some specific difficulties financing their education in California because our “tuition” was so low.

This fall, those recommendations were reviewed by the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, including committee review by the Graduate Council, the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation, and the Committee on Educational Policy. The change was also reviewed by the Berkeley Divisional Council. The committees approved the name change on the basis that it would have no effect whatsoever on our policies and procedures with respect to graduate students.

We understand this point has recently become an issue in bargaining between the UAW and the University of California at the systemwide level. Today we received the following statement from the Office of the President, “The changes in the fee structure program that are being contemplated by the Regents created some changes in fee names for some fees that are current remitted for Academic Student Employees (ASEs) under the terms of the ASE contract. The University will be working with the Union to ensure that ASEs are not negatively affected by the change.” The Berkeley Divisional Council is reassured by this statement, and expresses its commitment to insuring that our graduate students retain the level of fee/tuition remissions that they were promised when they accepted offers of admission to Berkeley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Fiona M. Doyle'.

Fiona M. Doyle
Chair, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Professor of Materials Science and Engineering