August 17, 2011

Professor Mario Biagioli, Science and Technology Studies
Professor Gina Bloom, Department of English
Mr. Ethan Evans, Doctoral Candidate/Sociology
Professor Rachael Goodhue, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
Professor M (Lev) Kavvas, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Associate Dean Kent Lloyd, School of Veterinary Medicine
Assistant Professor Jonathan London, Human and Community Development
Ms. Cassandra Paul, Doctoral Candidate/Physics
Professor Wolfgang Polonik, Department of Statistics
Assistant Dean Richard Shintaku, Graduate Studies
Professor Alan Taylor, Department of History
Dean Heather Young, School of Nursing (chair)

RE: The Joint Administration/Academic Senate Special Task Force on Graduate Education at UC Davis

Dear Colleagues:

We are writing to invite your participation on a joint Senate-Administration Task Force to provide advice and recommendations to the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor and to the Chair of the Academic Senate regarding various ways our institution supports graduate education in all its forms, and the strategic process that aims to articulate what we want graduate education at UC Davis to be or become as we approach 2020. The task is ambitious and the primary focus should be on the vision itself, rather than the path to reaching it.

We have attached a detailed description that describes the Task Force and the role of the Task Force in this broad visioning effort. We look forward to discussing the process and our goals at the first meeting of the Task Force.

The Budget and Institutional Analysis Office will provide staff support for the committee and make detailed background information and analysis available to members prior to the initial meeting. Staff will contact you shortly to schedule the committee’s first meeting. You need not respond to this letter unless you are unable to serve.

We very much appreciate your participation in this important task force, which will support the design of the future of our graduate education.
Sincerely,

Ralph J. Hexter
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

Robert L. Powell
Academic Senate Chair

Attachment

c: Chancellor Katehi
Analyst Sarah Mangum