



August 30, 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: Jerris Hedges, Dean of JABSOM

From: Michael Bruno, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and
Vice Chancellor for Research

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Krystyna Aune, Dean of Graduate Education

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Subject: JABSOM Graduate Program Review Progress Report

Thank you for your August 1, 2018 one-year progress report regarding the 2017 review of JABSOM's graduate programs.

In your one-year report you summarize the decision to suspend the reorganization discussion for now. We support that decision and hope that the efforts to increase enrollment prove to be successful. Additionally, we applaud your efforts to advertise the graduate degree programs through web updates, social media, news media, and at national meetings. Faculty and graduate chairs are key to graduate student recruitment; they should be informed and willing to respond to prospective student queries with graduate program information at-the-ready and have their research programs and publication records easily and publicly accessible. The success in obtaining NIH funded training grants to support graduate students is to be commended. Graduate Division is working with Academic Affairs on Bachelor's to Master's Degree pathways to encourage top performing undergraduate students to think about also earning an advanced degree by double counting up to nine approved credits in the senior year. If the pathway program is of interest to the JABSOM graduate programs, we can discuss this initiative further. Graduate Division is also working with programs to build a centralized source for graduate program information similar to Queen's University's 'gradmaps'. We can work with JABSOM's graduate programs to complete the UHM template.

We are pleased to learn that the shared curriculum in biostatistics, bioinformatics, and ethics has been achieved. Opening up the CTR courses via cross-list should be helpful for efficiency and synergistic purposes. The restructured and re-named CTR MS with CR and the new QHS options should certainly attract new graduate students. We look forward to hearing about outcomes related to the Clinical and Translational Research program restructuring as well as the re-evaluation of the PhD program. Decisions need to be made soon regarding the future of the Ph.D. program in Biomedical Sciences.

As for the parking/commuting concerns, these remain difficult problems to solve both at Mānoa and at Kaka'ako. Long term, we need to continue to look for solutions to these issues as well as the related high cost of living and lack of affordable housing options for graduate students.

We look forward to updates regarding enrollment trends and outcomes of the changes made to various aspects of the JABSOM graduate programs. The mid-cycle report will be due on September 1, 2020.