Dear Colleagues,

The Office of the President is pleased to announce the launch of the University of California-Hispanic Serving Institutions Doctoral Diversity Initiative (UC-HSI DDI). This systemwide effort is designed to support faculty diversity by enhancing pathways to the professoriate for underrepresented students from California Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). The UC-HSI DDI program includes two components—

- **Competitive grant awards** to UC faculty/faculty administrators that will support short-term and long-term programs/projects to enhance and expand pathways to the professoriate for underrepresented minorities, with a goal to increase faculty diversity and inclusion at UC. Please see the Request for Proposals for detailed application information.

- **Funding to support graduate student preparation for the professoriate.** Specifically, there are resources to help support a limited number of PhD students, who are California HSI alumni and have advanced to candidacy at UC, to foster their interest and preparation for the professoriate, and additional professional development outreach and support for underrepresented PhD students with a goal to encourage and help equip them to consider careers in the professoriate. UCOP will coordinate directly with campus graduate divisions for this component of the Initiative.

As part of UC’s system-wide effort to enhance faculty diversity, new annual funding was allocated to support efforts that will expand pathways to faculty diversity. This commitment enables the University to launch the new system-wide UC HSI program and support the following goals:

1. Increase the pathways to UC PhD completion for underrepresented students from California HSIs.
2. Expose, encourage and help prepare students for the professoriate.
3. Encourage research and enrichment collaborations between UC faculty and faculty at partner California HSIs—supporting partnerships that will foster long-term engagement opportunities among faculty, students, programs, departments and campuses.
4. Enhance the climate of academic programs through interventions, incentives and efforts that foster an academic culture of inclusion and equity—especially for faculty and students from underrepresented communities.

As part of the 2019 inaugural launch, I am sharing the UC-HSI DDI Request for Proposals (RFP) to encourage UC faculty and administrators to enhance existing partnerships or explore new California HSI collaborations (within and external to UC). This grants program offers two funding mechanisms (small awards up to $50K and large awards up to $350K) that will address the four program goals listed above. Please review the RFP for specific program guidelines. For more information, please visit the UC-HSI DDI webpage: [https://ucop.edu/graduate-studies/initiatives-outreach/uc-hsi-ddi.html](https://ucop.edu/graduate-studies/initiatives-outreach/uc-hsi-ddi.html) or contact Graduate Studies at gradstudies@ucop.edu.
Please share the information below with faculty/faculty administrators on your campus and encourage them to apply.

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The Initiative is in direct support of appointment and promotion review and appraisal criteria as established in the Academic Personnel Manual: APM 210 - [https://ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-210.pdf](https://ucop.edu/academic-personnel-programs/_files/apm/apm-210.pdf). This effort also supports the revised Diversity Statement, adopted as policy in 2010, by the UC Regents. Thus, I want to be sure faculty are made aware of this important opportunity. I appreciate your attention and engagement on behalf of this Initiative; thank you for your role in advancing UC’s inclusive excellence efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Brown, Ph.D.
Provost and
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs