Richard Hughey  
VPDUE, UCSC  

Re: UCSC Time Slot Proposals  

VPDUE Hughey,  

At our GSA meeting on May 3, 2012, we discussed your modified proposal regarding increasing the scheduled time slots for classes in order to increase the availability of large lecture halls.  

Although we recognize that there is an immediate need for increasing our capacity on campus for course instruction, pending the construction of a new Classroom Building, there were a number of concerns regarding this proposal. The GSA feels that any proposals, including new construction, are simply a band-aid for the real issue, which is over-enrollment on our campus. We have run out of the capacity - in both residential and instructional space - to be taking in larger and larger classes. While we recognize there are budgetary and systemwide reasons behind this move, we must official lodge our concern and disapproval of this practice and encourage Administrators to be actively searching for means to ensure enrollment is properly matched to current, available space on campus.  

The GSA also has a huge concern that none of these proposals appear to have a sunset clause, and are hoping for assurance that this is indeed a temporary step, and not merely a way to move towards a permanent change in the schedule to encourage even more over-enrolling.  

There were also more practical concerns, including consideration of not only public transportation like the Loop buses and the Metro, but also how the graduate student vanpool could be affected. There could also be conflicts with Departments who have late night graduate student seminars, making it difficult for those who need to teach to also fulfill their academic commitments. Finally, there is a distinct lack of food on campus in the evenings, especially for graduate students who do not have meal plans.  

Given these concerns, and recognizing that we may be picking the least worse from a variety of temporary solutions, the GSA prefers "Option #2: In the 6-10 largest rooms, add MWF 5:00-6:10" with the schedule immediately reverting back to its original form following the construction of a new Classroom Building.

Erik Green  
President, UCSC Graduate Student Association  

cc:  Academic Senate Chairs  
    Alison Galloway, UCSC EVC  
    Amanda Buchanan, UCSC SUA Chair  

The Graduate Student Association exists to serve the collective interests of the graduate students of UCSC by promoting cooperation among graduate students of various boards of study at UCSC, representing their interests to the faculty, administration and staff of UCSC, providing a vehicle for and promoting cooperation with other graduate student organizations on this campus and systemwide, and by providing services to the graduate student body which they cannot provide for themselves as individuals.