

**Council Resolution Five (CR – 05):  
Reinvestment in Graduate and Professional  
student parents**



**WHEREAS** there are an average of 200 graduate and professional student parents, according to ARCHAC and other sources, less than 10 percent of whom utilize campus care facilities;

**WHEREAS** over 45 percent of graduate parents have more than one child and over 75 percent have of child of an age that would otherwise require childcare services;

**WHEREAS** childcare and other related expenses for over one-third of graduate and professional student parents simply would exceed current financial support (TA stipends, fellowships, grants, childcare subsidy, etc.);

**WHEREAS** graduate and professional student parents currently comprise 20 percent of graduate housing;

**WHEREAS** graduate and professional student parents are currently faced with an average monthly cost of 800 -1,100 dollars for private childcare within Graduate Housing, compared to a monthly cost of 1,254-1,643 dollars for ECEC;

**WHEREAS** childcare within the immediate vicinity of UCSD currently averages around 200 dollars more than the greater San Diego metropolitan area;

**WHEREAS** the TA/GSR childcare subsidies are reimbursements capped at 600 dollars per quarter and are constrained to reimbursement for licensed childcare services;

**WHEREAS** the campus care is 200-400 dollars more than licensed care, and licensed childcare is 200 – 300 dollars more on average than unlicensed childcare and so certain services are potentially more financially accessible only to a portion of student parents;

**WHEREAS** student parents are not currently set as priority placement on the UCSD childcare center wait-list;

**WHEREAS** the TA/GSR childcare subsidies are not given during the summer session to student parents and so parents who receive subsidized care must seek childcare outside of UCSD childcare centers in the summer;

**WHEREAS** graduate and professional student parents are greatly limited to qualifying for subsidized childcare for UCSD childcare services by the state standards;

**WHEREAS** 65-70 percent of the graduate and professional student parents who utilize child care services choose to seek care outside of UCSD childcare centers because of waitlist and financial reasons;

**WHEREAS** 33 percent of the graduate student parents with spouses or partners who work choose to work at least in part for reasons of affording healthcare and/or childcare;

**WHEREAS** nearly half of the student parents who do not use any child care services do so out of preference simply to not use any form of care;

**WHEREAS** UCSD is located in a part of the state that far exceeds the average cost of living in the state;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA recognizes the UCSD Student Parent Childcare Survey results administered by GSA representative from SIO, Brandon Stephens, Student Parent Wellness Intern, Rochelle Lorkovic and the GSA VP for Diversity, Service, Equity and Inclusion, Don Johnson;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA recognizes the results as a call – to – action on the poor state of support for student parents at UCSD;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA calls on the UCSD ECEC to increase the proportion of children of student parents from 25 to 33 percent;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA calls on the UCSD administration to endorse mechanisms and fund raising activities (i.e. via the UCSD alumni association) that provide financial support for student parents who demonstrate financial hardship but are not otherwise eligible for subsidized care (as for UCLA);

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA calls on UCSD to recognize graduate student parents as GSRs during the summer months so as to allow for continuous use of a single care provider throughout the year;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA advocates for the use of a sliding scale reimbursement plan for child care services based on annual income that extends from 1,500 to 900 dollars per quarter;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA supports a graduate student fee referendum for further subsidizing childcare through a fellowship based program,

or a childcare voucher program as long as the funds generated are controlled and administered by a GSA committee;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA supports the development of a childcare access website advertising the care options within a certain distance within campus (i.e. <5 miles);

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA supports the development of a child care exchange program via either a website or listserv that allows students/faculty/staff to exchange hours of care with one another;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that UCSD GSA recommends that any future child care facility that is to be constructed should be designed to readily incorporate more flexible care options geared toward students (i.e. drop-in or part-time care);

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the UCSD GSA reviews expansion of family-friendly programming through by-law amendments and budget expansions in the coming year.

**Voted & Passed in GSA Council Meeting 5: 12/02/2013 (Y/N/A - 28/0/4)**  
**Certified: Rahul S. Kapadia, 12/05/2013**