

[The following is an email from Grace Hong, Director of the Center for the Study of Women, UCLA.]

From: **Grace Hong**  
Date: Sat, Jan 14, 2023 at 11:02 AM  
Subject: Re: Funding TAs/GSRs

Hi, all,

Just in response to the question regarding what deans and chairs have been told about TA/GSR and fellowship funding: at the Social Sciences meeting with Abel and chairs/directors this past Tuesday, Jan 10, various chairs expressed these exact concerns expressed by folks on this thread, that is, 1) that departments would be asked to bear the costs of TA/GSR increases and 2) that for departments bearing the cost of students on fellowship who would understandably demand parity with TA/GSR salaries, the same amount of Grad Division block grant funding given to departments would mean departments would have to accept fewer grad students which would mean that the following year, Grad Division would allocate less funding because they base it on the number of students funded in prior years, leading to what one chair called the “death spiral” of these graduate programs.

From what I remember, Abel did not give any specific guidance or information but just said that he and other deans understand that this is a concern and that he and others are working on it and would raise these concerns up the chain, along with folks from Academic Senate. Toby and others on this thread who were also at that meeting, please feel free to fill in if I’ve missed anything?

In any case, it does seem like there’s room to push back and demand that UCOP, the Governor, and the Legislature work to direct more funds to campuses, divisions, and departments to pay for the contract *that UCOP signed*. Would be happy to join any efforts to organize around this.

Thanks, all,  
Grace