TO: Ken Barish, Chair
        Riverside Division

FR: Kurt Schwabe, Chair
        Executive Committee, School of Public Policy

RE: *[Campus Review] Proposed Regulation Change: 2nd Round-Changes to UCR Regulations 2, 3, and 4: 2–Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts or Master of Science, and Master of Administration; 3-Requirements for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts; 4–Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy*

Date: January 19, 2026

The Executive Committee of the School of Public Policy has reviewed the revisions to the *[Campus Review] Proposed Regulation Change: 2nd Round-Changes to UCR Regulations 2, 3, and 4: 2–Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts or Master of Science, and Master of Administration; 3-Requirements for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts; 4–Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy*. Our only comment to the initial proposal was to Section 2.3 related to the use of the term "faculty graduate advisor":

(Prior Comment from SPP) ***Section 2.3 (Advancement to Candidacy Requirement, formerly Section 2.5). The proposed change modifies the current policy that applications for advancement to candidacy be made upon recommendation by an academic department and replaces it with a policy that applications be made upon recommendation by the "faculty graduate advisor." For programs that do not use assigned graduate faculty advisors, this policy change may have the unintended effect of placing the responsibility of recommendation to candidacy decisions on department chairs, who may be less familiar with student progress than staff graduate advisors.***

The response to our comment was (p. 18): *"Faculty Graduate Advisor" is a general term used throughout the regulations meant to encompass a position called many different names by various programs. The program handbook can clarify who fills that role in a specific program."*

We understand and appreciate the response. As a suggestion, perhaps an alternative term to consider would simply be "graduate advisor" rather than "faculty graduate advisor" since in SPP, staff fill that role, not a faculty member (and then the handbook can clarify that role for each specific program). Else, we have no additional comments.