

Graduate Council Minutes January 12, 2012

The Graduate Council met on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in 307 Kerr Hall.

Present: Bruce Schumm, Chair, Bettina Aptheker, Scott Brandt, Alkis Polyzotis, Carol Shennan, Donald Smith, Megan Thomas, Tyrus Miller (DGS), Christy Caldwell (LAUC), Alice Ye (GSA), Jim Moore (DGS), Stephanie Casher (ASO), and Michael Tassio (ASO)

Absent: Jorge Hankamer, Kimberly Jannarone, Raphael Kudela

The minutes of 12/1/11 were approved followed by a brief round of introductions.

Chair's Announcements

Chair Schumm reported on a memo from VPDUE to CEP and GC Chairs, suggesting revisions to the graduate course approvals forms. The VPDUE's impression is that the course approval supplemental sheets focus more on "what" the course is, rather than "why" the course exists. VPDUE Hughey also thought it might be helpful to have some questions specifically about learning objectives included on course approval forms, which could help facilitate the WASC review process.

Chair Schumm solicited thoughts from the Council. Dean Miller contextualized the question of learning objectives for the committee, and the advantages for graduate education by making the following five points:

1. In discussing the learning objectives of graduate programs, faculty may reflect more explicitly on their expectations for and understanding of different features of graduate programs. This can help to identify outmoded requirements and spur reform of programs.
2. A clear, transparently articulated relation of program features to learning objectives may help underrepresented students persist and succeed in graduate study.
3. Learning objectives will provide useful guidance for graduate mentors to evaluate and discuss with students their progress in the program.
4. Better time to degree and completion may be facilitated for many graduate students.
5. Faculty may engage in the important current discussion about the function and optimal format of the master's thesis and PhD dissertation "capstone."

One GC member agreed that it would be wonderful to have learning objectives more clearly articulated, but as a faculty member under the pressure of time constraints, admittedly, much thought may not be put into responses to this question. Some Council members noted that adding information on learning objectives would be helpful, not only in terms of WASC, but also for the courses subcommittee members reviewing these courses. Another member noted that focusing on learning objectives would also be helpful in evaluating program proposals. In view

of the breadth of the discussion, Chair Schumm felt it best that the issue be included as a formal agenda item for the next GC meeting.

Report from SEC by Vice Chair Brandt

The SOE Dean has asked his faculty to fill out a form whenever they plan to be off campus for more than one day. The Dean is informing faculty that this is required for insurance purposes, yet this is likely not the case. SEC took exception to this proposal, and will probably have Privilege and Tenure investigate. It was noted that Department Chairs already have the authority to approve leave for faculty up to 7 days.

There was some discussion about protest activity and responses from administrations at other campuses that resulted in violence. SEC members were appalled by certain campus' response, but agreed that our campus seems to have sound procedures in place, and we have avoided the violent situations that recently occurred at UC Davis and UC Berkeley.

Discussions about rebenching continued, and UCOP appears to be moving forward on this, which is likely to be good for UCSC. One adjustment being proposed is to give a boost to campuses that are trying to grow graduate enrollment, which would benefit our campus.

There was also a lot of discussion about the Class Times Proposal, but no conclusions were drawn.

Report from CCGA by Tyrus Miller

There is a plan at UCSD to develop an affiliation with the California Western School of Law. The UCSD Chancellor has pushed to fast-track review of this, but the Senate is attempting to slow the process in order to ensure thorough review of all potential complications.

The UCLA Anderson School of Business is interested in transitioning from being a UC-funded entity to a self-supported entity. This move is highly controversial on many fronts, and is being closely monitored.

UCSF inquired about the joint enrollment of regular graduate students in courses offered through self-supporting programs, and vice versa. No conclusions were drawn, but this issue will warrant further discussion.

DGS Announcements

The Graduate Leadership Certificate program is starting on Friday, and they have enrolled 16 students.

Last year UCSC hosted a group of students from Stanford's Diversifying Academia, Recruiting Excellence (DARE) program designed to prepare students for careers in academia. The event this year is taking place in mid-February and select UCSC students have been invited to attend.

GSA Announcements

Meg Eppel, who has been sitting in as GSA rep, is teaching during this timeslot in winter quarter. Erik Green, the GSA President, may attend Graduate Council meetings.

Library Announcements

Special Collections reopened Monday, and faculty are encouraged to visit.

Expanding the Chancellor's Fellowship beyond PhD applicants

Dean Miller asked for Graduate Council's thoughts on if MFA students should be eligible for Chancellor's Fellowships (which includes a \$24,000 stipend and payment of all fees and tuition, including nonresident tuition).

Chair Schumm referred to the Attiyeh report, which makes the case for supporting academic doctoral students, citing, among other things, the reduced earning potential relative to that for professionally-oriented graduate degrees, and the length of time and substantial opportunity cost associated with the attainment of the degree. Schumm noted that, to the extent that only a small fraction of MFA students expect to pursue academic careers, granting MFA students access to Chancellor's Fellowship funding would be at odds with the findings of the Attiyeh report. Another member pointed out that MFA programs are typically 2-3 years, as opposed to 5-6 years for doctoral programs. This raised the question of whether or not it is appropriate to offer an MFA student support for half of their program cost, when the fellowship covers a smaller percentage of support for doctoral students (who may need the funding more). Another member pointed out that it may set precedent that could open up other Master's programs to request eligibility for Chancellor's Fellowships.

Graduate Council recommends that the eligibility criteria for Chancellor's Fellowships remain unchanged, i.e., that MFA students not be eligible for Chancellor's Fellowship funding.

Faculty Salary Metrics

Graduate Council reviewed the Faculty Salary Metric proposal and is supportive of the initiative and commends CFW's efforts. They look forward to reviewing the completed study.

T.I.M PDST Proposal

One committee member expressed confusion about how the program can justify charging nearly double PDST for resident students than nonresident students. Further, does it make sense for the program to charge as much as Stanford?

There is also no mention in the proposal of the 'loan forgiveness program' which the guidelines explicitly asks the proposal to speak to. Graduate Council would like to see this discussed, or at the very least, have the omission justified.

Another member pointed out that TIM is arguing that part of the justification for the fees is that the TIM M.A. is a terminal degree, when in fact all Master's degrees in Engineering can be viewed as terminal degrees.

Another member was not sure the connections were adequately drawn between the justification of fees, revenue generated, and use of funds. There also seems to be a large number of adjuncts being hired for a relatively small number of students. The program only projects an enrollment of 15 students.

A concern was also expressed about the blurring of the line between professional training and academic programs. Is there a problem with professional programs "latching on" to academic programs?

Graduate Council expressed interest in seeing the Market Survey, but trusts that CPB will give the Market Survey careful analysis.

Chair Schumm will draft a letter expressing Graduate Council concerns and circulate to the committee for comment.

Program/Degree Requirement Changes

Graduate Council reviewed the proposed changes to degree requirements from the following departments:

- History – Minor revisions to program statement for purposes of clarification.
- History of Consciousness – Requesting that students take their QE at end of third year but no later than the fourth year.
- Linguistics – Addition of Psycholinguistics as a core area; change in wording about qualifying papers; and change master's "paper" to master's "thesis."
- Psychology – Revisions to Social Psychology program description and requirement that graduate courses be graded S/U, not letter-graded.

There was some discussion about whether or not a program should be allowed to *require* a S/U or letter-grade option, and it was the sense that when the legislation was amended, the language was carefully crafted to enable the greatest amount of flexibility for programs and departments to select the grading and evaluation system that makes the most sense for their program. Graduate Council decided they did not want to second-guess the desires of the individual departments and department faculty.

Graduate Council approved all the proposed changes. The Graduate Council analyst will communicate the Council's decision to the respective departments.

Update from Interdisciplinary Graduate Program Subcommittee

The subcommittee met and developed some principles and drafted a letter to send to grassroots faculty who may be interested in proposing interdisciplinary programs, as well as faculty with

experience with interdisciplinary programs. The subcommittee also developed a list of faculty to approach.

The subcommittee members will meet individually with identified faculty, and compose a report for the Council.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.

So Attests,

Bruce Schumm, Chair
Graduate Council