

Graduate Council Minutes**May 31, 2012**

The Graduate Council met on Thursday, May 31, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in 307 Kerr Hall.

Present: Scott Brandt, *Chair Pro Tem*, Bettina Aptheker, Jorge Hankamer, Kimberly Jannarone, Raphael Kudela, Alkis Polyzotis, Bruce Schumm (*by phone*), Donald Smith, Megan Thomas, Jim Moore (DGS), Christy Caldwell (LAUC), Michael Tassio (ASO)

Absent with Notice: Tyrus Miller (DGS), Carol Shennan

Absent: Erik Green (GSA), Alice Ye (GSA)

Housing Consultation Guests: Sue Matthews, Steve Houser, David Keller, Patt Takeuchi, Orville Canter (GSA)

Consent Agenda

The meeting minutes of May 3, and May 17, 2012, were approved.

Chair Announcements

Chair Pro Tem Brandt discussed the purpose of the consultation with Housing and announced that UCSC graduate student, Orville Canter, will be present at the consultation as a guest. Orville has been engaged with issues of housing for families and graduate students this academic year and is the primary author of "Affordable Family Student Housing Proposal," reviewed by Graduate Council in Winter 2012.

Graduate Council has received several recent requests that the committee might need to take up in the near future. The requests include a revised proposal from the History of Consciousness Department for a Designated Emphasis, and requirement changes to the Qualifying Exam in the Politics Department. The committee analyst was notified about program statement changes in Theater Arts, Latin American and Latino Studies, and Feminist Studies, but complete requests are yet to arrive.

DGS Announcements

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Tyrus Miller was away for a conference at the Monterey Institute of International Studies related to the MARINE collaboration. Announcements were given by Assistant Dean Jim Moore.

The online application program used by students interested in studying at UCSC, Embark, is being replaced by a new program named Jazzee. The development of Jazzee was a collaborative effort between UCSC and other UCs, and will provide prospective students with a highly functional platform for applying to UCSC.

The Graduate Division is weighing the benefits of accepting unofficial student transcripts in the

application process. Many universities already do this, and due to new technologies that code unofficial transcripts, there is an extremely low percentage of forgery.

GSA Announcements

Representatives from the GSA were not present at the meeting.

Library Announcements

Faculty were recently notified by email about additional cuts to the library's collection budget. The library provided faculty with a list of subscriptions that will be cancelled, and an informational webpage that will be updated as new developments that impact the collections budget occur.

Due to ongoing budget cuts and recent staff retirements, the library will undergo a reorganization that will likely result in new leadership in collections.

Program Statement and Degree Requirement Change – Music Department

Council reviewed the proposal submitted by the Music Department to make changes to its graduate program statement. Members unanimously approved the request, and raised the following point: as a result of the new foreign language requirements in the Music Department, some Ph.D. students may be in the difficult situation of having to learn two foreign languages in their first year of enrollment in the program. If this is not the intent of the requirement, Graduate Council recommends that revisions be made to the statement.

Sub-committee selection to review the Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Pre-Proposal

The following council members elected to review the Critical Race and Ethnic Studies program pre-proposal and to submit their response by the June 10 deadline: Bettina Aptheker, Scott Brandt, Bruce Schumm, and Megan Thomas.

Program Proposal – Games and Playable Media M.S. Program and Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)

Members reviewed the commitment from CP/EVC Galloway for start-up funds for the Games and Playable Media M.S. Program and Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition. Members agreed that \$500,000 is a sizeable commitment but that according to the budget analysis conducted by Planning and Budget, an additional \$250,000 is needed. While the letter from the Dean of Engineering includes a commitment to make up the additional amount, it does not specifically say how much of a commitment the School of Engineering will be willing to make.

Council members raised the following points about the proposal:

- A market survey assessing student demand is needed; on page 18 of the proposal it is stated that the School of Engineering and the Department of Computer Science have agreed to jointly fund a market survey. Members questioned the reasoning for having a market survey after the proposal has been reviewed, citing the importance of seeing these results in reviewing the proposal.
- Regarding the proposed internship for 5-credits, members questioned whether or not there are examples of this in other UCSC graduate programs. Further, would there be an

instructor of record, or would credits be offered through independent studies? If the internship is a course, it would have to be approved by the Senate following the standard course approval process. Moreover, will this course be waived for students who already have experience working in the industry?

- The program seems expensive and many of the comparable universities in the cost analysis are private; cost comparisons to like programs at public universities might justify the cost.
- Members raised concern that the faculty MOU will not create a structure that is adequate to support the interdisciplinary ambitions of the program.
- Office equipment is necessary for the success of this program and having a letter of commitment from UCSC Silicon Valley Initiatives Director Ringold for resources would be helpful.
- Members expressed concern that students without backgrounds in computer science in the two-year program might be considerably disadvantaged.
- A qualification of preparation is required before students are admitted to the 10-unit Game-Production Intensive in the final summer of the one-year program. Who will be charged with certifying this qualification, and how will the decision be made?
- The faculty member hired in 2012-13 must be able to teach courses necessary for the one-year program.

Graduate Council is awaiting a response to the program proposal from the Committee on Planning and Budget and will respond to VPAA following receipt of it.

Consultation with Sue Matthews, AVC, Colleges, Housing and Educational Services (3:00-4:00)

In attendance: Sue Matthews, AVC, Colleges, Housing and Educational Services; Steve Hauser, Director, Colleges, Housing and Educational Services; David Keller, Director, Housing Services and Facilities; Patt Takeuchi, Executive Director, Colleges, Housing and Educational Services; Orville Canter, GSA guest.

Graduate Council invited AVC Sue Matthews to consult with them about issues raised by the GSA regarding the disposition of Family Student Housing (FSH), and to help council members understand how housing priorities are set on campus.

The focus of AVC Matthews' presentation was on FSH and included the following: Historical rental rates (compared to on- and off-campus apartments); eligibility requirements to live at FSH, and historical occupancy rates; deferred maintenance issues, and planning for west campus. In presenting options being considered for planning purposes, AVC Matthews gave context to the discussion by reviewing the 2008 Comprehensive Settlement which binds UCSC to specific bed space requirements, the FSH Renovation Analysis (Nova Report), and the Site Plan Options-Summary Report (BAR Architects).

Members of Graduate Council are concerned that if FSH is rebuilt the units will no longer be affordable to graduate students and families, and they stressed the need for Housing leadership to

consider the value added to the university by having affordable housing for graduate students and families.

Citing the wages graduate students earn as teaching assistants and as researchers, members asked that Housing leadership keep these figures in mind when setting rental rates. There is concern that if housing is no longer affordable for graduate students, they will move off-campus to non-university housing, reducing funding streams from housing.

AVC Matthews discussed the connection between student enrollments and the mandate to provide bed spaces for students, which has had the adverse effect of increasing rental rates to create more bed spaces through costly renovations or construction projects. Members stressed the need to renegotiate the Comprehensive Settlement and to engage in serious conversations with UCSC leadership about reconsidering enrollment targets.

Members also discussed the option of housing more students in off-campus UCSC housing. The 2008 Comprehensive Settlement limits UCSC to house no more than a total of 548 new off-campus beds. UCSC currently houses roughly 108 students at the off-campus University Town Center.

Assuming FSH units will be removed and reconstructed, members questioned what ratio of new units would be made available to families. AVC Matthews responded by stating that the ratio is not currently known, but that some of the units will be available to students without families.

Guest Orville Canter questioned the differences in accounting for bed spaces carried out by UCSC and the Coalition to Limit University Expansion (CLUE). According to research he has done, CLUE is willing to count each FSH unit as housing four people, while UCSC only counts each unit as housing one student. If this is indeed true, UCSC could account for housing more people (roughly 600) thereby dramatically reducing the pressure to build more bed spaces as mandated by the Comprehensive Settlement.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Brandt, Chair Pro Tem, Graduate Council