

**Graduate Council  
MINUTES  
October 4, 2012, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Kerr Hall 307**

**Present:** Bruce Schumm, *Chair*, Bettina Aptheker, Scott Brandt, Juan Poblete, Seth Rubin, Megan Thomas, Meg Wilson, Jim Moore (DGS), Christy Caldwell (Library Rep.), Michael Tassio (ASO staff)

**Absent with notice:** Tyrus Miller (DGS), Raphael Kudela

**Graduate Council Charge, and the Confidentiality and Recusal Policy**

Council members reviewed the committee Charge and discussed the Confidentiality and Recusal Policy. Chair Schumm stressed the need to maintain confidentiality regarding committee matters.

**Chair Announcements and an Overview of Graduate Council in 2012-13**

Chair Schumm discussed the role of Graduate Council and invited members to bring issues to Graduate Council. Additionally, Chair Schumm is a member of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and can bring issues that are beyond the scope of Council to that committee.

Chair Schumm is also a member of the systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA), and regularly reports to Council on issues of importance to campus and Council.

The Senate and Administration are developing a Joint Task Force on Pedagogy. The draft charge has been circulated and Administration has given the initial approval of it. The task force will be focused on an array of issues around improving pedagogy such as ways technology can improve teaching. Interdisciplinary efforts on campus are expected to be discussed, and the task force will make use of the Interdisciplinary Activity Report that Graduate Council produced in June 2012.

The major issue for Graduate Council in 2012-13 will be aspirational graduate growth, resulting from funds released by the rebenching process. Council has long advocated for graduate program growth at UCSC, and funds for aspirational graduate growth will give UCSC a historic opportunity to grow the graduate student population.

Members questioned the role of Graduate Council in graduate growth. Chair Schumm recommends that Council first needs to be informed about the issues, and about strategies for how funds might be spent. He urged members to get an early start at informing faculty in their departments about the exciting historic opportunity UCSC has, and that UCSC will have to be strategic in how graduate programs are grown. Further, Chair Schumm reported that Executive Vice Chancellor Galloway has already authorized 12 faculty FTE, presumably with the idea of graduate growth in mind.

Vice Chair Brandt informed members of Council's 2011-12 review of a document titled "Graduate Student Rights and Responsibilities," written by the Baskin School of Engineering (BSOE). The document outlined fair practices towards and expectations of students pursuing graduate degrees within BSOE. Council raised concerns about the document and suggested revisions to bring it into alignment with Senate prerogative, but has not received a response from

BSOE. Vice Chair Brandt stressed the need for a campus-wide document, and recommended that Council revisit this issue to consider building upon the BSOE document by clarifying parts and expanding others. Chair Schumm agreed that Council needs to revisit this item.

### **Dean of Graduate Studies (DGS) Announcements**

Given Dean Miller's absence, Jim Moore, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies, made the DGS announcements.

Dean Miller is interested in consulting with Graduate Council about moving the calendar for Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) submissions forward to May (it is currently in July). This change will give the student whose submission is selected more time to develop their final proposal.

The Dean is engaged in discussions about Rebenching and aspirational graduate growth, including a consultation with the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) scheduled for October 9.

Dean Miller strongly encouraged departments to proactively use the new NRT fellowship for recruiting international graduate students. The NRT fellowship funding was created to off-set non-resident tuition costs for international students for their first two years.

The Leadership Academy has been re-initiated for this academic year to happen during Winter Quarter. Joint programming with faculty and administrative leadership has been increased this year.

Dean Miller recently signed an MOU with the Brazilian consulate. Details about the program are being refined, but it is expected that UCSC will admit more Brazilian graduate students.

### **Graduate Student Association (GSA) Announcements**

GSA representatives have not yet been appointed to Graduate Council; there were no announcements.

### **Library Announcements**

There were no announcements from the library.

### **Officer, Subcommittee, and Review Assignments**

Members reviewed the draft officer, subcommittee and external review assignments. All assignments were accepted with the exception of two changes: Juan Poblete will review Cota Robles proposals rather than IGERT proposals; Chair Schumm will review IGERT proposals rather than Cota Robles proposals.

### **Systemwide Review of the Rebenching Report**

Council members reviewed the rebenching report and discussed aspirational graduate growth. Chair Schumm began the discussion by reiterating that growing graduate programs has long been a goal of the Senate, and that aspirational graduate growth funds present UCSC with a historic opportunity for growth. A member noted that rebenching, generally, is a major and hard fought achievement for campus. Campus has struggled for decades to grow programs despite being

institutionally handicapped by funding levels insufficient for significant growth. Approaches to growing graduate programs will need to be approached very strategically, so as to not bring in more students than can be adequately supported.

Members raised concern about the level of growth expected in a relatively short period of time. Chair Schumm and other members noted that the level of growth expected (the UC average of 12% doctoral to undergraduate students), is best to be thought of as a goal, and noted that any significant growth should be viewed positively.

Chair Schumm advised Council that the manner that aspirational funds are distributed may be perceived as benefiting some departments or programs, but not others. As such, Chair Schumm urged members to step back and view graduate program growth, generally, as a huge benefit to campus, and to be active in appropriately promoting the general goal of graduate growth among their colleagues. Jim Moore added that there are a wide variety of opportunities being considered, but that the time frame is very limited.

Members raised concern about the goals of graduate growth, noting that if the goal is merely to increase graduate student numbers, the prestige of UCSC and its graduate programs may suffer. Chair Schumm recommended that Council gather more information about the principles and goals for aspirational graduate growth before developing a plan of action, and before responding to the Rebenching Report. Regardless, Graduate Council is in the unique position of having an opportunity to play a role in shaping the future of graduate programs at UCSC.

Graduate Council will continue this discussion at their meeting on October 18.

### **Proposed New Policy: APM – 430, Visiting Scholars**

Graduate Council discussed the proposed new policy, APM – 430, Visiting Scholars, to create a new title to accommodate domestic and international visitors who are students enrolled in universities in the United States and abroad, and academics employed at other institutions who are visiting the UC for short-term academic or cultural exchange experiences. Council sees the policy as a positive development and found no significant problems with it.

### **Housing for Graduate Students and Families**

Council Vice Chair Brandt explained the recent history of Family Student Housing (FSH) and Council's participation in a dialog with AVC Sue Matthews about it. In 2011-12, the Graduate Student Associate (GSA) raised a number of questions about the disposition of FSH, which is likely to be demolished and reconstructed in the near future. Council followed these discussions through its contacts within the GSA, and the UCSC administration. Council is primarily concerned with ensuring that FSH, and other campus housing for graduate students, remains affordable.

In its last correspondence with AVC Matthews (June 2012), Council raised a number of questions about specific policies and procedures at FSH. Council members discussed AVC Matthews' response to that letter. Many returning members of Council expressed concern that Council's questions were not directly addressed, and are inclined to continue pursuing the dialog

by responding to AVC Matthews. One new member of Council recommended broadening the conversation about housing for graduate students to include the likely need for additional campus housing to respond to graduate student growth at UCSC. Other members expressed discontent that the model used to set rental rates on campus will inevitably drive all housing costs, for graduate and undergraduate students, astronomically high. Currently, some undergraduate students are paying aggregated rent as high as \$5,000 per month in shared four-person, two-bedroom apartments on campus. Given these concerns, Graduate Council will raise issues about housing costs with other Senate committees and the UCSC administration.

**Electrical Engineering MS Capstone Change Proposal**

Due to time constraints, Council was unable to discuss this proposal.

**Adding Course Syllabi to the Student Portal**

Due to time constraints, Council was unable to discuss this proposal.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.