

Graduate Council
MINUTES
November 1, 2012, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Kerr Hall 307

Present: Bruce Schumm, *Chair*, Bettina Aptheker, Tyrus Miller (DGS), Seth Rubin, Megan Thomas, Elise Nelson (GSA), Jim Moore (DGS), Christy Caldwell (Library Rep.), Michael Tassio (ASO)

Absent with notice: Scott Brandt, Raphael Kudela, and Juan Poblete

Consent Agenda

- The meeting minutes of October 18, 2012, were approved with minor corrections.
- The Council supported the request from the Department of Politics to implement a policy governing probation periods, and their support of graduate students' petitions to extend periods of academic probation.
- The Council supported the request from the History Department to reopen admissions in Modern Europe.

Chair Announcements

There were no updates from the Chair.

Dean of Graduate Studies Announcements

Dean Miller recently attended a celebration for the newly established Feminist Studies Ph.D. program. The program will admit its first cohort of students this fall.

Dean Miller continues to meet with Senate committees to discuss aspirational graduate growth. He has currently met with SEC, CPB, CEP, and CAAD.

Dean Miller and Assistant Dean Moore are discussing cost effective graduate systems updates.

The Division of Graduate Studies website is transferring to the Web Content Management System utilized by most other units on campus. They expect the new website to go live in one to two weeks.

The Graduate Student Snapshot is getting a new tool that will permit faculty and staff to have a more clear view of student benchmarks and milestones. The tool is expected to enhance advising by providing faculty and staff with real time information on student progress. The division is attempting to go live with the software in July 2013.

Graduate Student Association Announcements

The Graduate Student Association has made TA funding a priority for their agenda.

Library Announcements

The library recently hosted a joint event with the Graduate Student Association (GSA) regarding digital submission of dissertations. Participants raised a number of questions about formatting.

The California Digital Library (CDL) has provided each UC with a small amount of funding to assist faculty with costs for publishing in open-access journals.

FTE Transfer – Social Sciences

The Council reviewed and voiced its support for the transfer of a faculty FTE within the Division of Social Sciences. In doing so, however, the Council strongly encouraged the Division to ensure that this transfer of a critical mid-career member not impede the transferring department's curricular goals.

UC-wide Open Access Policy Proposal

The Council voiced its general support for the Open Access Policy put forward by the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication. The Council applauds its colleagues for proposing this bold step forward. The Council wondered, however, what the disposition of the policy would be with respect to articles published by UC community members that are not in the Faculty Senate. This group includes, for example, adjunct faculty, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate students, all of whom can act as sole or lead authors on articles relating to University-sponsored research and scholarship. The Council recommends that this issue be clarified before the policy is promulgated.

External Review: Stage One

Environmental Studies

The Council reviewed the documents submitted with the universal charge to the external review committee for Environmental Studies. The Council requests that the committee also consider these additional questions:

1. Please evaluate the department's attempts to reconfigure their core introductory Ph.D. program curriculum.
2. In view of aspirational growth, and in comparison to similar programs, do you see opportunities to increase the size of Ph.D. cohorts?
3. Is the department's engagement in interdisciplinary instruction and research appropriate for the nature and focus of the program?

History of Art and Visual Culture

The Council reviewed the documents submitted with the universal charge to the external review committee for History of Art and Visual Culture. The Council appreciates the depth and breadth of Dean Yager's questions and has no additional recommendations.

Science Communication

The Council reviewed the documents submitted with the universal charge to the external review committee for the Science Communication Program. The Council requests that the committee also consider these additional questions:

1. Please comment on the appropriateness of the content and delivery of the newly redesigned graduate curriculum.
2. Might the program benefit from charging Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition, and if so, on what principles would it base the choice of the amount of supplemental tuition?

Aspirational Graduate Growth – Presentation by VPDGS Miller

VPDGS Miller consulted with the Council on aspirational graduate student growth. Following a presentation, members raised several issues. One member pointed out that graphs viewed by the Council showed that some disciplines appear better positioned to take on more doctoral students than others. Dean Miller discussed doctoral students per ladder rank faculty FTE at UCSC, and agreed that the graphs point to some disciplines that may be better positioned to grow than others. Another member inquired about the role of students pursuing Master's degrees. Dean Miller shared his intuition that doctoral student growth of the magnitude that UCSC is pursuing cannot happen without growth in other categories of graduate programs. Chair Schumm inquired about whether conversations with campus administrators have begun. Dean Miller noted that he has met with several divisional deans and that he will soon meet with departmental faculty.

Graduate Council will continue the discussion of aspiration graduate growth at their next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.