

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**  
**January 30, 2014**  
**Kerr Hall Room 307, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Bruce Schumm, *Chair*, John Bowin, Ken Kletzer, Leta Miller, Tyrus Miller (via phone), ex officio, Jim Moore, Juan Poblete, Pascale Garaud, Deborah Gould, Seth Rubin, Wang-Chiew Tan, Micah Rahder (Graduate rep), Erin Ellison (Graduate Rep)

**Absent with Notice:** Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Michelle Glowa (Graduate Rep)

**Guest:** Jim Moore (Assistant Dean, Grad Division)

**Routine Announcements**

*Dean of Graduate Studies*

In response to questions from the council, Assistant Dean Moore agreed to look into easing the GC workload associated with review of applications for the Cota Robles Fellowship.

*Graduate Student Association Representative*

The council welcomed GSA representative Erin Ellison.

**Consultation with Professors Ron Glass, George Bunch, and Rod Ogawa**

Following consultation with former chair of the Education Department Dana Takagi, the council met with departmental faculty Professors Glass, Bunch, and Ogawa on the issue of suspension of admissions for the Education Ph.D. program. The council asked about the progress the department has made towards resolving the curricular issues identified by former Chair Takagi. Professor Glass responded that the primary curricular problem is reflected in the five concentration structure of the Education Ph.D. program. The credential program (master's) is not offered by Senate faculty. The challenge for the department has been covering the diverse topics of education and still providing depth, hence the multiple tracks reflecting faculty research interests. The department is currently considering movement to either a single pathway (in-school teaching and learning interactions) or two pathways (including the social and cultural context of education). This is almost decided, but what remains is the difficult task of integrating the master's program and re-starting the Ed.D. degree program.

The Ed.D. program was originally a partnership with Cal State San Jose and Cal State Monterey. Cal State withdrew from the program and UCSC negotiated a teach out agreement and the focused on a standalone Ed.D. program. The current hope, according to Professor Glass, is to integrate it more deeply with the MA credential program.

Professor Ogawa clarified that the new Ph.D. program proposals (one track and two tracks) are

written up and currently under consideration by the departmental faculty. The faculty will vote on the two options at a meeting on Wednesday February 5, 2014. Professor Bunch explained that the proposals are written up but not ready to be shared with GC. The council asked if there was any sense of which proposal would be selected. Professor Bunch explained that straw polls conducted in the department show a unanimous desire to move away from the existing five track model, but Professor Glass stated that he did not have a sense of which proposal (one track or two tracks) would be selected. The council asked if the two proposals were written with the current faculty in mind or if they assumed some loss of FTE, the possibility indicated by former Chair Takagi. Professor Glass responded that the one track is the simplest to run if one assumes the worst case scenario for departmental demographics. The two track proposal is sustainable in the near term but not in the long term.

The council asked when the department plans to make offers to incoming Ph.D. students for 2014-15. Professor Glass responded that offers have not yet gone out, but the department has submitted its fellowship proposals to the Graduate Divisions. There were 32 applicants of which 11 were selected for offers and the department expects six to accept. The council further asked if the outcome of the departmental vote on the future curriculum for the Education Ph.D. would affect the incoming students. Professor Bunch explained that the one track and two track programs are not proposed for the incoming 2014-15 students. The department has all of the resources in line to mount the current program for that cohort. Professor Glass added that the department is not overly concerned about the change in the program adversely affecting current and incoming Ph.D. students. Much of the existing curriculum fits into the proposed options. The council discussed the possibility of matriculating the 2014-15 students into the new program, rather than into the old five track program.

The council asked why the proposals for a new one track or two track system are not ready for review outside of the department. Professor Ogawa explained that in the fall quarter (2013) he chaired a committee of faculty charged by former chair Takagi to re-organize the curriculum. The first priority was to address the cost and size of the MA program. The dangers to the Ph.D. program were not clear until after the MA program issues were addressed. Professors Glass, Bunch, and Ogawa asserted that the one track and two track proposals were not ready to be shared with Graduate Council out of respect for the education department faculty, as the proposals are still in draft form. Professor Bunch went on to say that the immediate issue is whether it is tenable to admit the incoming cohort of Ph.D. students.

The council asked about Professor Glass's suggestion (in his January 28, 2014 correspondence) that an Ad Hoc Committee with departmental, divisional, and campus representatives be constituted to negotiate a resolution to the fundamental underlying issues producing the misalignment of the structure of the Education Department. Professor Ogawa explained that this was requested because even with a vastly simplified Ph.D. program and the budget savings of the redesigned MA program, the underlying problems of the department are not addressed. The budget and FTE assignments to the department are out of their control. The dean's position is that the department should not hire while in receivership, but Professor Ogawa believes that more work needs to be done on the campus level to create a plan for the Education department after

receivership.

The council asked about the problem of existing faculty size in the department and the possibility for loss of FTE due to retirement and separation. Professor Glass responded that the current one track and two track proposals do not involve an expansion of the faculty, but there remains serious questions about the department's ability to sustain either program with a reduced faculty. He pointed out that the Education Ph.D. program was approved by Graduate Council when the department had a faculty size of nine to ten. Professor Ogawa clarified that mounting a substantial undergraduate minor, an MA program, and a doctoral program may not be feasible with the limited resources of the department in the long term. The Education department has a "math problem" with its budget and staffing that cannot be resolved internally. Professor Bunch reiterated that the issue at hand is the decision to admit incoming 2014-15 Ph.D. students, and asserted that these problems would not affect the incoming cohort. All three agreed that the department would self-suspend admissions to the Ph.D. program if they believed they could not successfully mount the curriculum to move the 2014-15 students through to degree.

The council asked if the departmental faculty believe there is a "math problem." Professor Ogawa stated that with the reorganized MA program and the simplified Ph.D. program, there is no "math problem" in the short term. But, if faculty retire and are not replaced, reducing the department numbers to nine to ten faculty, then there will be a problem. The department believes campus should form an Ad Hoc Committee to examine the allocation of resources.

The council informed Professors Glass, Bunch, and Ogawa that it planned to make its decision to suspend or allow admissions to the Education Ph.D. program for 2014-15 quickly.

### **Post Consultation Discussion**

The council discussed the implications of suspending admissions to the Education Ph.D. program effective immediately. Of primary concern was the timing of the potential decision, as applications were in and offers were ready to be offered. The council's prerogative includes the wellbeing of the students that are in the program and that would be admitted. Members were frustrated by the lack of concrete plans offered by the department, and the apparently lack of speed with which they have been addressing these serious curricular and structural issues.

However, in view of the significant progress that had been made in coalescing the faculty around a simplified curriculum, and the availability of substantial external support for graduate students, by majority vote the council decided not to suspend admissions to the Education Ph.D. program for 2014-15. The council agreed to develop stipulations that the department must meet before they begin advertising for Ph.D. admissions for 2015-16. Similar to the process for departments coming out of admissions suspension, the Education Department will be asked to provide periodic data and status reports to the Graduate Council.

**Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) Proposed Policy**

The council reviewed the proposed systemwide PDST policy. Members discussed the issue of “sticker shock” with increasingly high tuition rates. Even when backfilled with increase financial aid opportunities, programs with high tuition will often not receive applications from low-income students who cannot overcome the advertised cost. This adversely affects the diversity of PDST programs. Also, the proposal raises the bar for approval of PDST programs, and disadvantages younger campuses that are now beginning to flesh out their academic offerings with significant PDST program enrollments.

**Earth & Planetary Sciences Departmental Spousal/Relationship Policy**

The council reviewed a proposal from the Earth & Planetary Science Department to create an addendum to Appendix D, Section VII of the Santa Cruz Division Manual regarding appointment of Graduate Committees. The proposed policy would augment the graduate review committees by one member if two members from the department had a familial relationship. The council discussed the motivation for the proposed policy, and found that it would be better presented in terms of conflicts of interest rather than in terms of familial relationship. Relationships are just one form of many possible conflicts of interest. The council agreed that the document would serve as good guidance but not as policy.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.