

**GRADUATE COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
January 15, 2015  
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Ken Kletzer (Chair), Pranav Anand, John Bowin, Jonathan Fortney, Kimberly Jannarone, Dean Mathiowetz, Leta Miller, Tyrus Miller, Stefano Profumo, Wang-Chiew Tan, Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Erica Smeltzer (Graduate Student Rep), Jeb Purucker (Graduate Student Rep), Mary-Beth Harhen (Senate)

**Absent:** Roberto Manduchi, Miten Jain (Graduate Student Rep)

**Guest:** Jim Moore, Assistant Dean, Graduate Studies

**Consent Agenda**

Consent agenda approved (Minutes 11/06/14, Minutes 11/20/14, Minutes 12/4/14)

**Routine Announcements**

*Chair*

Chair Kletzer provided an update on the systemwide Coordinating Council on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) meeting of January 7, 2015. CCGA will produce a memorandum on Self Supporting Professional Degree Programs, including criteria for designation as self-supporting and accountability about being truly self-supporting. He also reported that CCGA discussed the budget consultations that will be taking place between Governor Brown and President Napolitano.

Chair Kletzer reported on the SEC meeting of January 13, 2015. He reported that SEC members discussed a first draft of a memorandum regarding a framework for internationalization of the campus. He noted that the major initiatives were focused on outreach to increase international undergraduate and master's fee paying enrollments. One purpose is to increase resources to the campus and to foster international connections in both research and education for UCSC. He noted that Ph.D. programs were probably a focus of these outreach efforts.

Chair Kletzer introduced Jeb Purucker as the new graduate student representative. He announced that Roberto Manduchi will serve as the second GC member on the Task Force for Graduate Growth.

Member Mathiowetz was identified as the SEC alternate.

*Dean of Graduate Studies*

Dean Miller reported that degree titles for academic degrees falls under the authority of the President and the Regents, by standing order of the Regents. He noted there is a distinction between academic and professional degree titles.

He also announced that the Graduate Division's Research Symposium has been moved to late April to coincide with Alumni Weekend. It is expected this will draw graduate alumni to the event.

Joe Palca (National Public Radio) has been invited to be the graduate commencement speaker this year.

Dean Miller announced the upcoming Sacramento Graduate Advocacy day. Last year, President Napolitano came with graduate Deans and grad students, and spoke with seven legislators and staffers.

Dean Miller reported on the upcoming Grad Slam. UCSD, UCSB, and UCSF have all done this. It involves a three minute thesis presentation in publicly accessible, performative format. The systemwide final will take place on May 4, 2015, a live round will take place March 6, 2015 on the campus.

Cota-Robles applications are expected next week. Members on the application review sub-committee will be contacted soon by Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies Jim Moore.

*Graduate Student Representative*

None.

*Librarian Representative*

None.

**Consultation with VPDGS Miller**

GC consulted with VPDGS Miller on the block allocation formula and graduate division strategies for graduate growth.

Dean Miller explained that the block allocation is based on a conglomerate of two formulas, one that weighs enrollment and one that weights the number of degrees granted, using a three year average in order to smooth out any annual fluctuations. The size of the block is adjusted to assure that the overall funds that departments get is not decreasing (per student funding does not drop). Complications have arisen from the MA enrollments included in the block and the MA incentive program. If the MA program is new, then it is all part of the MA incentive program. For those MA's with historic enrollments, there is a three year process by which enrollments were taken down to zero. Next year, all programs will start with a historic baseline of zero. Graduate Division does not have a distinct budget for student support. There are a lot of different allocations used to create the different components of graduate support (i.e. Cota-Robles, the block). The overall budget for graduate support was increased by the CP/EVC.

Addressing the graduate growth targets, Dean Miller noted that the 12% growth target was developed by examining other campuses. Other campuses ratio of doctoral to undergraduate is around 11%. The time frame we have been given for the rebenching process is six years. While it is possible for an institution like ours to reach 12%, it cannot be done within six years. We have a poor relationship between the target, resources available, and the timeframe given. However, we have been given a substantial amount of resources and want to direct them to that intention (graduate growth). Time is need for the cultural and structural changes.

Dean Miller noted that funds are being used to augment the block for new programs. Funding provides for a pallet of initiatives for supporting multi-year offers.

In response to a question about divisional differences in available support for students, the Council discussed UCR's strategy for funding by cohort. One concern of this model, according to Dean Miller, is that this method may not be impactful toward completion if the fellowships were too small. One strategy used on our campus has been enriching the allocations to the divisions in TAships, resulting in supporting students earlier.

The Council discussed the issue of multi-year offers. Some campuses include and institutionalize multi-year offers so they are mandatory. There is a draft proposal and sample about what a multi-year offer looks like (UC Irvine). There is flexibility in fulfilling the requirements through GSR, fellowship, TAship. On our campus a large percentage of students do get five years of support empirically, but

departments are reluctant to make multi-year offers because they are not a guarantee. Multi-year offers would make us more competitive, and possibly help time to degree.

Dean Miller noted that one important question when considering multi-year offers should be, where should the risk be “back-stopped”? There is volatility in resources at the Dean level, the federal grant level, and so forth. It’s important to figure how to pool the risk and pool a reserve so that departments can count on it, so if there is a gap in a faculty grant, or a Dean pulls TAs, departments won’t find themselves in an emergency trying to support a student. There needs to be a more stable background for making multi-year offers, and the program must be structured so that it is not abused. But it is a solvable problem.

Dean Miller discussed the master’s incentive program. Previously, there was very little interest or understanding of the value of MA students or master’s programs. It was reflected in the fact that funding support in the enrollment formula was less than Ph.D. in the block allocation. Masters were perceived as a draw on funds that could otherwise be offered to Ph.D. applicants. Master’s incentive program was intended to change that and recognize that master’s allow you to offer a richer curriculum and attract better Ph.D. students. Under the master’s incentive program, there is net tuition from MA students, and now a piece of that goes back to the offering program. Unlike the block allocation that must be spent for direct grad support, this return allows flexibility for the department to meet whatever their need is. The \$2600 per year master’s enrollment goes to the department, and it is assumed they will use it toward graduate education.

A final point of discussion was the over-offer ratio, which is closely related to the historic take rate. Both dollars and headcount are examined to try to determine for a department how many offers they should make the next year. Although complicated, the Graduate Division has tried to make it more transparent. There is some discretion in coming up with the ratio, but that should not be a deterrent to make it more transparent. Dean Miller noted he would not have a problem with faculty seeing these documents, but would want the opportunity to explain them.

### **WASC Accreditation Review**

In preparation for the campus 2015 WASC reaccreditation review, VPAA Lee requested Senate review of the final draft of the campus Institutional Report. An earlier version of the report was circulated for the Senate review in spring 2014, and feedback considered/incorporated in this final draft. The Council reviewed the draft and found no additional issues to comment on.

### **External Reviews**

Comments on the ERC Report (Stage 2)

#### *History of Consciousness*

The Council commented on the History of Consciousness external review report, and focused on three main areas: graduate student support and TAs, faculty FTE, and size of the department and governance/ leadership. The Council also commented on the positive impact of the program on the division, and the importance of the program to UCSC.

#### *MCD Biology*

This item moved to the next Council meeting.