

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 12, 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), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate)

Absent: Roberto Manduchi

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean, Graduate Studies

Consent Agenda

Consent agenda approved (Minutes 01/15/15).

Routine Announcements

Chair

Chair Kletzer provided a brief update on the systemwide Coordinating Council on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) meeting of February 4, 2015. CCGA discussed self-supporting programs (SSGPDP), and focused on the importance of having these programs evaluated ahead of time for financial feasibility and that they serve the academic mission of the university. Chair Kletzer noted that many self-supporting programs have been established in the UC system, although UCSC has not yet proposed an SSGPDP. Some of these programs have been unsuccessful, attracting few students and failing to generate adequate revenues to be self-supporting. Some of these may be disestablished.

Chair Kletzer announced the upcoming Senate meeting (February 18, 2015). Topics on the agenda will include the Silicon Valley Initiative, introducing a C- grade for undergraduates, and a report on internationalization. The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) has discussed the Silicon Valley initiative and has put together a document about how proposals should be evaluated by SEC. Chair Kletzer noted SEC's document highlights the importance of evaluating the academic quality and contribution to the campus mission of prospective programs. Chair Kletzer noted a concern from faculty that a large share of available FTE will be dedicated to this initiative.

Dean of Graduate Studies

Dean Miller announced the upcoming NSF Traineeship grants (formerly known as IGERT grants) for interdisciplinary initiatives. The Graduate Dean and Graduate Council Chair for the past three years have jointly issued the call from the Senate. The Graduate Dean has been the coordinator of the process. This year, he expects the campus will put forward two proposals in the area of Data Science and Engineering. He expects six to twelve teams that will put forward proposals. There is a pre-proposal process, vetted by the campus, and a few of these pre-proposal are selected to go to the full proposal stage. The Graduate Dean expects to put together a committee involving deans of Physical and Biological Sciences, Engineering, and Social Sciences, the Vice Chancellor for Research, and faculty participants. A few of the faculty are drawn from Grad Council. The Grad Dean administrates the process, requests the Council Chair to draw membership for the committee. The Dean will provide a matrix for scoring proposals and feedback will be conveyed to the proposers after review.

Dean Miller provided an update on the upcoming Grad Slam, where graduate student participants have three minutes to talk about their research in a competition. Ten finalists will be selected on February 24, and a live Grad Slam will take place on March 6, 2015.

Dean Miller announced the upcoming Council of Graduate Deans meeting in Santa Barbara. Topics on the agenda will include student health insurance, intellectual property in graduate internships, and the upcoming graduate research advocacy day in Sacramento. Additional topics will include risk pooling for multi-year offers, mental health for grad students, and a consultation with Aimee Dorr (UC Provost).

Graduate Student Representative

Graduate Student Representatives raised concern over the distribution of additional FTE made through the Chancellor's Teaching Fellowship. There appeared to have been miscommunication over the number of FTE made through the fellowship and Dean Miller clarified that initially (two years ago) the allocation of FTE was 36 over a three year period, but 44 was actually allocated.

Librarian Representative

Representative Caldwell announced that the library has a postdoc, Rachel Deblinger, working on digital humanities programs.

Guidelines on Proposing Joint Bachelor's/Master's Degree Programs

The VPAA is developing guidelines for faculty considering proposing 'joint' Bachelor's/Master's degrees, and sought the Council's input on the draft. An issue pointed out in the VPAA's transmission letter was the double-counting of units for the bachelor's/master's joint programs, and the guidelines proposed that the number of courses satisfying requirements in both degrees should not be an issue as long as there are sufficient numbers of units that can be applied to each degree (180 for bachelor's, 35 for master's). The rule that restricts a student to counting no more than 15 upper-division undergraduate units to a graduate program still applies under this proposal.

Chair Kletzer noted that this has become an issue with the new Compendium, which stipulates that hybrid bachelor's/master's programs need to be reviewed at the systemwide level. The CCGA Handbook states that if a Bachelor's/Master's program proposal involves the creation of a new Masters degree, CCGA review will follow the standard review procedures for a new graduate degree proposal, but if the proposed hybrid program uses an established master's degree, the CCGA will normally provide pro forma concurrence with the divisional Graduate Council.

The Council agreed that the campus needs a clear set of guidelines for combined Bachelor's/Master's programs, and that further, this process should be as simple as possible for those combined programs creating a pathway between existing degree programs. The Council also noted that the VPAA's draft guidelines are intended to be a guide for departments or faculty creating programs and preparing proposals, and recommended separating these two purposes by using the main text to provide guidelines for Bachelor's/Master's programs and adding an appendix to list the contents of a proposal. The Council also recommended that the guidelines could be improved by adding more detail and providing greater clarity, and noting that it may be useful to review the procedures for establishing combined programs at other UC campuses. The Council concurred with the VPAA's analysis that the number of courses satisfying requirements in both degrees is not an issue as long as the requirements on units listed in SCR 10.4 are met and the requirements for each degree are satisfied. The Council also recommend explaining this more fully in the "Guidelines."

A particular concern arose over the phrase "joint Bachelor's/Master's program." Some members expressed concern that Bachelors/Masters are not actually "joint" programs, as joint programs are

typically joining departments or institutions. The Council noted that the phrase “combined programs” is used elsewhere in the UC system.

The Council’s recommendations will be communicated to VPAA Lee in a formal memo.

Graduate Council Charge Revisions

Graduate Council continued review of its charge and deliberated additional changes and revisions.

Program Statement Changes

The Council conducted its annual review of proposed program statement changes.

Social Documentation was approved, pending removal of graduate Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) from the catalog copy. Astronomy and Astrophysics; Philosophy were approved.

The Council is requesting additional information before further considering program statement changes for Computational Media.