

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

Present: Ken Kletzer (Chair), John Bowin, Jonathan Fortney, Pascale Garaud, Kimberly Jannarone, Dean Mathiowetz, Sue Carter (ex officio), Stefano Profumo, Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Erica Smeltzer (Graduate Student Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate)

Absent: Roberto Manduchi, Wang-Chiew Tan, Jeb Purucker (Graduate Student Rep)

Routine Announcements

Chair

Chair Kletzer announced that the Joint Senate/Administrative Task Force on Graduate Growth has finished its work, and the co-Chairs are finalizing the report, which will come to the Council for review and discussion in the fall. The task force focused on four topic areas: capacity for graduate growth, allocation models, incentives to encourage faculty to participate in graduate education, and professional development of graduate students.

Chair Kletzer also provided an update on the June 3, 2015 systemwide Coordinating Council on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) meeting. CCGA reviewed a 4+1 program that involved the establishment of a new M.A. program. CCGA also discussed ongoing meetings with the Governor and President Napolitano, and raised concerns about the future of the Governor's managing of the budget. CCGA also reviewed and discussed the 2014 Berkeley Happiness and Well Being Report, and is interested in urging the wider university to examine the report.

Member Garaud serves as Senate Executive Committee (SEC) alternate for Chair Kletzer. She reported on the May 26, 2015 meeting, where the memo from the UC Regents on the budget was a topic of discussion. Most of the impact seems to be on undergraduate education. SEC also discussed the NAMS proposal, which replaces the previous contract with NASA Ames. NAMS will likely provide plentiful opportunities to place our M.S. and Ph.D. students and will mostly benefit STEM fields and Psychology.

Dean of Graduate Studies

Acting Graduate Dean Carter registered a concern that the Committee on Planning Budget (CPB), but not Graduate Council, reviewed the Silicon Valley Pre-Proposals. Chair Kletzer clarified that the Council will review Silicon Valley proposals in the fall.

Graduate Student Representative

Representative Smeltzer announced that the Graduate Student Association (GSA) is organizing a graduate student orientation for the fall, and they will coordinate with the planned orientation for International graduate students.

Librarian Representative

Representative Caldwell noted that a library mention is part of the requirement of new program proposals. The library letter is highly encouraged. She is hearing from others the concern that while we are a research university, we have historically been funded like a college library. She suggests that faculty engage the library sooner in the proposal preparation process. We need to have conversations earlier in the process.

Member's Items

One member raised a question about a campus nonresident supplemental tuition proposal. Chair Kletzer clarified that a proposal is included in Joint Senate/Administrative Task Force on Graduate Growth's report.

Off-Cycle External Reviews

Supplemental Questions for External Review Committee (Stage 1)

Film and Digital Media

The Council discussed the upcoming review of the Film and Digital Media Department. The Council's questions for the ERC focused on placement prospects for graduate students, quality of training and evaluation of curriculum, evaluation of recruitment and support allocation for Ph.D. students, external funding, and student satisfaction and morale.

Economics

The Council discussed the upcoming review of the Economics Department, and proposed several questions for the external review committee to address. The questions focused on coverage of the core graduate curriculum in context of FTE resources, faculty hiring and diversity, evaluation of the funding model in context of recruitment needs, graduate advising, and graduate student opportunities for collaboration with faculty.

Revised Proposal for M.S. Track II in Electrical Engineering

At its meeting of April 9, 2015, the Council reviewed the Electrical Engineering Department's revised request for changes to the Plan II Master's program, including the addition of a comprehensive exam to the approved "thesis" and "project" tracks currently in place and approved by the Graduate Council in March 2014. The department submitted a revised version of their proposal based on Council's recommendations outlined in a letter dated April 21, 2015.

The Council approved the revised proposal to remove the project track option and replace it with the comprehensive exam option for the Plan II capstone. The Council approved the comprehensive exam option as the default option unless students can find a faculty sponsor for the thesis option—Plan I.

The Council also noted that the proposal made modifications to the comprehensive exam, following the Council's recommendation, and was revised to be based on "topics and not specific courses." While this change clarified somewhat the content of the exam, the Council found the description of the comprehensive exam to be thin, and requested a more detailed description of the comprehensive exam.

Program Statement Changes

The Council reviewed several proposed program statement changes for 2015-16. The Council approved Economics, Computer Engineering, MCD Biology, and Politics. The Council is requesting further information and/or revisions from the following programs before further review: Feminist Studies, Electrical Engineering.