

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 23, 2014
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Ken Kletzer (Chair), John Bowin, Pranav Anand, Jonathan Fortney, Roberto Manduchi, Dean Mathiowetz, Leta Miller, Stefano Profumo, Wang-Chiew Tan, Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Kimberly Jannarone, Tyrus Miller (ex officio), Miten Jain (Graduate Student Rep)

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean, Graduate Studies

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was approved:
Minutes 10/9/14

Routine Announcements

Chair

Chair Kletzer confirmed the guest policy agreed to by GC at the last meeting, including that GC delegated to Chair the authority to approve guest invitation of Associate Dean of Graduate Studies when requested, in writing, from Graduate Dean Miller. Chair Kletzer noted that sometimes it is not appropriate for Associate Dean to be present at GC meetings. The Council confirmed agreement.

Librarian Representative

Representative Caldwell announced that Science Hill presentations on Open Access will be taking place Monday, October 27, 2014.

Dean of Graduate Studies

Dean of Graduate Studies Miller was absent. Graduate Council Guest and Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies Jim Moore announced that the Graduate Division is still ramping up admissions. He also noted that Dean Miller is preparing to consult with the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB), and gathering a lot of data for that consultation.

Graduate Growth

GC reviewed the Senate Executive Committee's "Guiding Principles for Graduate Growth." Chair Kletzer noted that these principles are going to the floor of the Senate on November 7, 2014, and that an Administrative/Senate Task Force is expected to develop a plan to move forward with graduate growth. The Council raised several issues of concern related to graduate growth, including the need to discuss and plan for increased TAships, the difficulty on our campus of making multi-year offers, sustainability for growth, disproportionate opportunities for growth across divisions, incentives for faculty graduate mentoring, and the likely trade-offs involved if the campus prioritizes graduate growth.

Council members also raised that what is needed is an assessment about what strategies the campus is following toward graduate growth. The Council also raised that they would like the task force to produce more data, not just principles, to guide graduate growth. The Council discussed the need for a specific plan for achieving graduate growth from our campus.

The Council raised the issue of the cost of living and availability of housing in the area, particularly when tabulating TA salaries.

In response to a member's comment that our campus has reached almost 10% graduate growth, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies Dean Moore noted that is all graduate numbers. He also stated that we can't grow much further without grant support. In response to the Council's concern about the need for multi-year packages, he noted that our campus has been in conversation with UC Irvine and another campus, and that it would take some work to achieve multi-year packages on our campus. He also stated that Dean Miller is trying to make the argument that different divisions have different needs. The master's incentive program was also trying to get funds rolled back to doctoral support generally.

Chair Kletzer also summarized Dean Miller's comments, which were sent via email since Dean Miller could not attend today's meeting. Chair Kletzer noted that Dean Miller raised the critical issue of targeted allocation of FTE lines, and that this does not automatically translate to grad growth, but that the Dean noted we should be more explicit about where FTE growth is directed and how it is tied to graduate growth. Dean Miller also noted that we should talk about trade-offs, if graduate growth is a goal then there will be places that don't grow and that needs to be looked at. Finally, Chair Kletzer noted but disagreed with Dean Miller's assessment that the Committee on Academic Personnel should establish incentives/rewards/recognition for faculty. Chair Kletzer noted that our CAP already is very involved in this area.

Education Ph.D. Report

The Education Department submitted, at GC's request, an annual report that appraises the Council of the status of the Ph.D. program. The Council reviewed the report with attention to curriculum planning, curriculum staffing, graduate student progress and morale.

In their review, the Council commended the Department for progress made in addressing the issues concerning the Ph.D. program raised by the Council last year. The Council was impressed by the care taken in producing the report, and the quality and documentation of the responses. The Department addressed the issue raised by the Council's request and inspired confidence that the program is making sufficient progress.

The Council raise some concern when reviewing the numbers of student who left the program. However, the Council noted that the retooling of the Ph.D. program to a "single track" and the proactive mentoring by the department discussed in the report will likely make a positive impact on student progress and completion rates.

TIM Proposal to Self-Suspend Admissions to M.S. Program

The Council reviewed a proposal from the Technology Management faculty to self-suspend admissions to the TIM M.S. program for 2014-15. The proposal cited financial reasons for the

self-suspension, consequently, the decision to implement a suspension plan is made by the CP/EVC in consultation with GC and CPB.

The Council recommended suspension of the TM M.S. program for fiscal reasons as requested by TM. The Council also noted that it has plenary authority to suspend admissions to the TIM graduate programs. The Council will require the TIM M.S. program to meet all five of the criteria outlined in its letter of May 28, 2014 for admissions to resume. The Council will review the TM plan after it is received and make a separate decision regarding suspension of the graduate programs (both M.S. and Ph.D.) under its plenary authority. The Council has determined that admissions should only resume after a curriculum and staffing plan is approved and the resources to implement it are committed.

External Reviews

Supplemental Questions for External Review Committee (Stage 1)

Anthropology

The Council discussed the upcoming review of the Anthropology Department. The Council noted that the department recently received increases in the TA and block-grant allocations to fund larger cohorts of Ph.D. students, and is interested in the ERC committee's assessment about the larger 2014-15 cohort's consistency with a desirable Ph.D. student to faculty FTE ratio. The Council is also interested in the committee's thoughts about how intramural resources for student support could be used to greater advantage, and if there are ways to increase external support for Ph.D. students or enhance mentoring of students seeking fellowships. The Council is also asking the committee to comment on the archaeology track within the department, in terms of curriculum quality, cohort size, and recruitment strategies.

Comments on the ERC Report (Stage 2)

Technology Management

The Council commented on the Technology Management external review report. Concerns noted in the ERC report and discussed by the Council included the capacity of the department to continue offering the Master's and Ph.D. programs, resources and FTE planning, the need for a vision plan for the Department, and linkages to other programs in Engineering.

Physics

The Council commented on the Physics external review report, and highlighted several of the ERC comments. In general, the External Review committee found the Ph.D. program to be of high quality and successful. Importantly, the committee noted that research training, academic promise at matriculation, time to degree and job placement of Ph.D. students are appropriate for a strong program. The ERC noted the reduction of average time to degree by a full year since the previous review, which moves completion time to the six year norm for Physics Ph.D. programs.

The Council's review of the report and the responses from the Physics faculty centered on four issues. The first of these concerned the breadth and strengths of the Ph.D. program, the hiring plan for the Department, and the relationship between the Materials Science initiative and sub-disciplines in the Department. The next two concerned graduate student support, recruitment and program capacity. The last considered the prospective proposal for a terminal Master's degree program.

The Council noted this was a very positive report highlighting the important need to maintain the strengths of the Ph.D. program in at least two major fields of physics, high-energy physics and condensed matter physics. The Council reiterated its support for concentrating graduate education on the Ph.D. program, increasing Ph.D. enrollment as a ratio of faculty FTE, and maintaining the contribution of Applied Physics to the Ph.D. program.