GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
April 14, 2016
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Present: Don Smith (Chair), Robert Boltje, David Brundage, Pascale Garaud, Jonathan Kahana, Roberto Manduchi, Dard Neuman, Tyrus Miller (ex officio), Stefano Profumo, Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Jess Whatcott (Graduate Student Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Anjali Arondekar, Dean Mathiowetz, Anjali Dutt (Graduate Student Rep)

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean of the Graduate Division

Member’s Items
Chair Smith provided an update on the work of the Graduate Growth subcommittee. A report/statement is in process, possibly for the May 2016 Academic Senate meeting. The Council will review and deliberate the report at a future meeting.

Chair Smith also announced that the issues related to sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH) and impact on graduate students, and Title IX office investigation duration raised by a graduate student representative will be on the Council’s next agenda.

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies (VPDGS) Miller announced Michael Nayak as winner of the UCSC Grad Slam, who will go on to systemwide finals on May 22, 2016. Dean Miller also announced that the Graduate Research Symposium is coming up on April 29, 2016. The deadline for submitting a presentation has been extended to this coming Monday at noon, and he suggested members encourage their students to apply. Finally, he announced that there is good news on graduate admissions. Most decisions will be made on April 15, 2016. On doctoral we have thirty more acceptances than this time last year, and one hundred more master’s acceptances than this time last year.

Mid-Cycle Report: HAVC
The Council reviewed the mid-cycle report for the History of Art and Visual Culture Department. GC concurred with VPAA Lee’s recommendation of a seven-year cycle for the department’s program review.

Proposal for a Bachelor’s/Master’s Path: Philosophy
The Council reviewed the Philosophy Department’s proposal for a five-year contiguous bachelor’s/master’s path coordinating existing B.A. and M.A. degrees. The Council raised a set of questions that will be communicated to the department, with the expectation of reviewing a revised proposal this quarter.

Proposal to Discontinue the Collaborative Leadership Ed.D.
Graduate Council reviewed the proposal to discontinue the Education Department’s Collaborative Leadership Ed.D. In evaluating the evolution of events leading to the department’s formal request to discontinue the Ed.D. program, Council noted the following: In 2005 the department offered a joint Ed.D. with CSU San Jose State and CSU Monterey Bay. The joint Ed.D. program enrolled two cohorts of students before the program was discontinued as part of a CSU system-wide withdrawal from joint Ed.D.’s with the UC’s. The Education Department then redesigned the program as a UCSC Ed.D. program, integrated with the department’s Ph.D. program courses. In 2009, a cohort of students was admitted into the redesigned UCSC Ed.D. program.
The Council noted that the Education department’s request for discontinuance states that a unanimous departmental vote to discontinue the Ed.D. program took place in April 2015, and also noted that suspension of the program was part of the revisions of the Education graduate programs submitted in April 2014. However, in materials submitted to Graduate Council in 2014 upon request of the Council (Education Report to GC, April 6, 2014), the department raised it might be best to “indensively suspend admissions” or alternatively “disestablish [sic] the program,” and also included an Ed.D. “Program Redesign Planning Outline.” While the department may have intended to move toward the possibility of discontinuance, the department did not formally set in motion the campus process to do so at that time. In its response to review of the Education report, Graduate Council (May 12, 2014) concurred with the Education department’s intention not to admit to the Ed.D. for the 2014-15 year. The Council understands that discontinuance was not sought at that time in order to allow for the possibility of reactivating the program. This year, the department sought to remove the Ed.D. from the 2016-17 catalog copy, and has set in motion the formal process for discontinuance. After clarifying the context for the Education Department’s request, the Council agreed to support discontinuance of the Ed.D.

Program Statement Changes
The Council reviewed program statement changes and is requesting additional information before further review of the Education program statement.

External Review
Comment on ERC Report (Stage 2)

METX
With Chair Smith recused, the Council discussed the Microbiology and Environmental Toxicology (METX) external review report. The Council noted that the ERC provided a thorough and thoughtful report on the METX graduate program. In general, the ERC found the program to be of high quality and very successful in placing graduates in desirable careers, and graduate students are enthusiastic about the research and training they are provided. The Council raised four issues to address at the closure meeting: staffing, quality and diversity of the curriculum, status of plans for a professional MS program or Bachelor’s/Master’s pathway, and student morale.