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

Committee Business

Meeting Minutes
Minutes for the January 28, 2016 and February 11, 2016 meetings were approved.

Members Items
Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Miller announced that the 12th Annual Research Symposium is taking place April 29, 2016, at 1pm. He also announced that Café Iveta has opened; patronage partly supports the Graduate Student Commons.

Proposal to Establish MFA in Social Documentation
With member Kahana recused, the Council reviewed the proposal from the Film and Digital Media Department for an MFA in Social Documentation. The program is proposed as a replacement for the existing M.A. program (the M.A. will be proposed for discontinuation once the 2016 cohort graduates).

The Council noted its support for the proposal, which contained a clearly articulated rationale for the MFA and the difference of the proposed program from the current MA, other relevant programs at UCSC, and other universities within and outside the UC system. Members noted that as a terminal degree, the MFA will both recruit higher quality and a greater number of qualified applicants, serving the campus initiative of strengthening and growing graduate programs. The Council will request specific clarifications to the proposal, including the following areas: graduate student funding model, course additions and revisions, proposed catalog copy, program review, and student time to degree. The Council expects to review a revised proposal during spring quarter.

Review of Draft Revised APU
The Council reviewed the draft 2016 revisions to the “Academic Programs and Units: Policy and Procedures Governing Establishment, Disestablishment, and Change” (APU), which includes changes driven by 2014 revision of the systemwide Compendium and CCGA Handbook.

The Council raised a number of general considerations as well as specific suggestions for change. The Council recommended that the process for submitting graduate non-degree programs (Designated Emphases, non SR-735 conforming graduate certificates, and Bachelor’s/Master’s paths) should remain as is, with transmittal of new proposals to the Graduate Council, with a copy to the VPAA. The Council strongly disagreed with the VPAA’s proposal to change the process, and in addition recommended that the VPAA should reconsider the “maintenance” process for changes in graduate non-degree programs, given that many non degree program changes come to GC primarily via the program statement change process. The Council also made recommendations in the following areas: placement of graduate program learning outcomes (PLOs) in the graduate proposal template, PDST and SSGPDP language within the APU, the
section on graduate certificates, catalog copy requirements in graduate program proposals, including 3+1+1 program proposal process guidelines in the APU, and additional minor changes in language deemed potentially impactful.

Proposal to Establish NAU/UCSC Economics 3+1+1
The Council reviewed a proposal for a pilot 3+1+1 program MOU between Nanjing Audit University (NAU) and UCSC Economics. The program is intended for a maximum of ten students. The Council discussion raised several issues, including admissions requirements to the graduate portion (second +1), apparent inconsistencies in the proposal, and remaining questions about areas to clarify in the proposal.

SVSH Graduate Student Survey
The Council reviewed the UCSC GSA/UAW “Campus Sexual Violence and Assault Survey for Grads” report (survey conducted fall 2015). The findings report outlines graduate student experiences with harassment and violence, knowledge of campus resources and responsibilities, and graduate student concerns, as well as recommendations. The survey was provided to the Council by a graduate student representative who raised concern about the vulnerabilities of graduate students as mandated reporters and complainants in sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH) cases, concerns with length of time for review, and general reporting structure. Members deliberated the issues raised and agreed to invite the Title IX Director to consult with the Council on how the Title IX Office serves the graduate student population on campus and how the new SVSH policy specifically impacts graduate students.