Present: Don Smith (Chair), Anjali Arondekar, Robert Boltje, David Brundage, Pascale Garaud, Jonathan Kahana, Dean Mathiowetz, Tyrus Miller (ex officio), Jess Whatcott (Graduate Student Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Dard Neuman, Roberto Manduchi, Stefano Profumo, Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Anjali Dutt (Graduate Student Rep)

Member’s Items
Chair Smith provided an update on the systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) meeting of May 4, 2016. Self-supporting programs were discussed. A CCGA subcommittee is revising existing self-supporting guidelines, which should be available by early fall. Currently budget information included in proposal varies widely, and efforts are underway to ensure that budget information in the proposal is integrated with the spreadsheet that goes to UCOP.

A member requested a discussion of adding graduate student welfare to the Council charge at a future meeting.

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies (VPDGS) Miller announced that commencement is taking place June 10, 2016. Professor Jennifer Gonzalez is the commencement speaker. He also announced that the UCSC Giving Day (May 11, 2016) raised $1300 in donations for graduate student internships.

NAU/UCSC Economics 3+1+1 Proposal
Chair Smith provided an update on his conversation with the Economics Chair to clarify sections of the proposed 3+1+1 program between Nanjing Audit University and UCSC Economics. The conversation clarified questions raised by members at the previous meeting regarding admission criteria and minimum criteria for acceptance. Member discussion generated areas where clarification is still needed, including how the GPA criteria can be met in time for proposed application to the MS program. The Council noted that while there are issues that need to be worked out, it is generally supportive of the proposed program.

Closure Meeting Briefing
Member Garaud provided a summary of the Microbiology and Environmental Toxicology external review closure meeting held on May 11, 2016.

Proposal to Establish MFA in Dance (Self-Supporting Program)
The Council conducted first review of a proposal from the Theater Arts Department for a low-residency MFA in Dance. This program is proposed as a Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Program (SSGPDP). Members reviewed the proposal without the market study. Comments from the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB) from its review of the proposal were also reviewed by the Council.

Graduate Council expressed support for the proposal, which appears to be a unique MFA program in Dance that will specifically serve mid-career artists. GC raised a number of areas for clarification and revision in this first preliminary review of the proposal, with the following broad areas: basis and structure of the program, division of teaching labor and faculty workload, financial aspects of the program, and online instruction, pedagogy and support. The Council expects to review a revised proposal and market study in fall quarter.
Proposal to Establish M.S. in Coastal Science and Policy (PDST)
The Council conducted first review of the proposal for an M.S. degree in Coastal Science and Policy. The program is proposed as an interdepartmental program, with primary administrative oversight from the PBSci Dean. The program is proposed as a professional degree with supplemental tuition (PDST). The Council reviewed the incomplete proposal, with an external letter forthcoming.

The Council noted the potential of the program to perform an important public educational service and raise the visibility of UCSC in an important and timely area of science policy. The Council also raised a number of questions and issues that should be addressed in a revised proposal. Questions were raised in several areas, including: the resource costs of the program relative to the number of students served and opportunities to grow other Master’s and Ph.D. programs on campus, mix of students following Plan I vs. Plan II, overlap between the proposed M.S. with current graduate programs in PBSci and the Social Sciences Division, proposed FTE plans and sustainability of course staffing, expected undergraduate background of students, course electives and number of course credits, expected demand for the program, and funding model.

Graduate Growth
This item was not discussed.

Pre-Consultation Discussion: Title IX Officer
Graduate Council briefly planned additional topics for the upcoming consultation with Title IX Director Tracey Tsugawa.