

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
November 3, 2016
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Don Smith (Chair), Lissa Caldwell, Ben Crow, Michael Dine, Judith Habicht-Mauche, Athanasios Kottas, Kimberly Jannarone, Roberto Manduchi, Tyrus Miller (ex officio), Paul Roth, Fitnat Yildiz, Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Alexandra Merritt (Grad Rep), Melanie Dickinson (Grad Rep), Yulia Gilichinskaya (Grad Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: None.

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies

Members Items

Library representative Caldwell reported on the “Communicating your Scholarship in an Open Access World” panel discussion at McHenry Library (10/6/16). She reported that speakers included UCSC faculty Roberto Manduchi and Chris Benner, each addressing their experiences with the UC Open Access Policy and Open Access book publishing. Katie Fortney, Copyright Policy & Education Officer, California Digital Library, addressed legal concerns authors may have, including those related to publisher agreements, and copyright. Ivy Anderson, Director, Collection Development and Management Program, California Digital Library, discussed current research about Open Access funding models, including the Mellon supported “UC Pay it Forward Project”, which tests financial models for Gold Open Access publishing.

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies (VPDGS) Miller announced that the Graduate Division is about to roll out the call for the Steck Dissertation Award. The Graduate Division awards dissertation prizes for dissertation completed in the previous year, from departmental nominations. The deadline for departments to put forward their nominations is March 1st.

VPDGS Miller also announced that he has received CP/EVC approval for International Doctoral Recruitment fellowships (IDRF). Broadly, the program as described by VPDGS Miller will work as follows, in the first year, resident and nonresident tuition will be covered by block allocation. In the next two years there will be a possibility of requesting nonresident tuition mitigation with the following stipulations: 1) if a student has outside funding, mitigation will not be requested, and 2) EVC has accepted this contingent of supporting more graduate growth, there will be an eligibility threshold per program based on enrollment numbers and metrics. This will be part of FTE call. VPDGS Miller noted the FTE call has gone out already, and he will use that for eligibility for this program. Overall, the IDRF would provide universal nonresident tuition mitigation in second and third year, in context of overall growth of doctoral students. VPDGS Miller emphasized he has just gotten informal confirmation of approval of the program. Chair Smith noted the Council will discuss this in more detail.

Chair Smith provided an update on the systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) meeting of November 2, 2016. He reported that the revised proposed Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) policy was discussed, and it will be coming to GC for review soon.

Consultation: VPDGS

The Council consulted with Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies (VPDGS) Tyrus Miller on the Dissertation Year and Cota-Robles Fellowships process and outcomes. The Dissertation Year Fellowship (DYF) process was changed last year, with the Council delegating the review and selection process to the VPDGS, who has now proposed a divisional level selection process. The Council annually reviews the process as part of its oversight of fellowships and graduate scholarships. This is the first consultation to occur since the change in the review process (GC to VPDGS 1/29/16). The Cota-Robles fellowship (CR) continues to be annually reviewed by a subcommittee of Graduate Council during winter quarter, and the Council plans to annually request an update on the outcomes of the CR in conjunction with an annual report on the DYF. VPDGS Miller provided the Council written information on the selection process prior to the consultation.

Members noted that it appeared that information about the number of DYF nominees is not tracked. VPDGS Miller confirmed this is the case, and said the data could be requested, and opened a discussion on why/how this would be helpful. He also noted that Graduate Division did not see the calls the deans put out for the Dissertation Year Fellowships, however, the Graduate Division provided general guidelines for the divisions, and then gave the deans discretion. The Council clarified that having more information would provide insight into the quality and the selection process at the divisional level. One member raised that the process of the DYF fellowships was handled in a suboptimal way in one division, with no discussion of candidates among the review group. The member noted the need to revise the process, at least in that division. The Council also asked if data was available on how many students awarded the DYF actually finished in the year the DYF was provided. Assistant Dean Moore noted the Graduate Division has been talking about pulling that data, but does not have that currently. Members also discussed the process for the Cota-Robles fellowships, and specifically discussed acceptance rates, how to improve the competitiveness of the fellowship, as well as diversity and the campus environment to support diverse students. VPDGS Miller noted that the Cota Robles is one of the most successful fellowships, and additional funding has been made available to support it. As far as the issue of competitiveness, VPDGS Miller noted that the Graduate Division will continue to monitor this issue.

The Council agreed that the candidate review and selection process should be more effective when done by a qualified group of divisionally focused faculty within each division, with the assumption that consistency and transparency of the review process across divisions in terms of the primary evaluation and selection criteria is maintained.

The Council noted, from the summary provided by the VPDGS, that three of the academic divisions (BSOE, Humanities, Social Sciences) used a faculty committee to select and rank candidates, with the Dean or Associate Dean acting as chair of the committee, with final candidate selection made by the committee. The two exceptions to this process, Arts and PSci, used the Acting Dean and Associate Dean (Arts) to select the candidates from department nominations, or used an existing committee to select DYF candidates, with the Dean and Associate Dean making final determinations (PSci). To address concerns about consistency of the evaluation and selection process across divisions, and in one case, the thoroughness of the process, the Council is requesting changes to the DYF and Cota-Robles process.

For the DYF, the Council requests include instituting a mechanism for better standardization across divisions, with fully transparent and clear review of the selection criteria; tracking data on nominated candidates as well as selected candidates to aid in longer term assessment of sub-disciplines that may over time show under (or over) representation; data collected and made available on how many students that were awarded the DYF actually finished their degree in the DYF year is also requested.

For the Cota-Robles fellowship, the Council notes it would be helpful if data were collected and tracked on the nominated CR fellowship candidates as well as selected candidates, to aid in longer term assessment of sub-disciplines that may over time show under (or over) representation; tracking data on overall yield, as well as yield by division to help identify areas of concern that may benefit from greater outreach to attract and support incoming students from diverse backgrounds.

The Council will consult on the process and outcomes for the DYF and CR fellowships for 2016-17 next fall.

Presidential Policy on International Activities

The Council reviewed the draft Presidential Policy on International Activities, which will replace 2005 guidelines. The proposed policy is intended to support and facilitate international activities undertaken by UC campuses; protect the reputation of the university, provide a policy framework for international activities, and manage risks. The policy also clarifies which activities must be approved by the Regents or UC Provost, but does not impose any new approval or authorization requirements for international activities.

The Council had specific comments and recommendations for revisions in the following areas: consideration of “risks” and a more structured process for consideration as a policy directive, as it appears currently that the responsibility of identifying, and then considering risk are open ended and fall on the individual faculty; clarifying guidance on the level of “risk analysis” that is needed; clarifying internal inconsistencies between the proposed policy and FAQs, on what kinds of activities are exempt from approval in the revised policy; clarifying local resources for policy guidance.

External Reviews

Stage 1: Supplemental Questions for ERC

Earth and Planetary Sciences

The Council discussed the upcoming review of the Earth and Planetary Sciences (EPS) department. The Council put forward questions in the following areas: size of the graduate program and applicant pool in context of hiring plans and advising capacity of EPS faculty; graduate curriculum; graduate professional development, funding, and mentoring.

Applied Math & Statistics

With member Kottas recused, the Council discussed the upcoming review of the Applied Math and Statistics (AMS) department. The Council raised questions in the following areas: graduate curriculum, sub-disciplines, and the SciCAM M.S. program.

Stage 2: Comments on the ERC Report

DANM

The Council commented on the Digital Arts and New Media (DANM) program external review report. The Council noted that the external review committee (ERC) found many areas of excellence in the DANM program and commended DANM for recognition of its strong foundational curriculum, principal faculty, facilities, committed staff, and students. The Council noted that some of the supplemental questions it put forward to the ERC were not addressed, in particular the Council’s concern regarding the

long-term sustainability of the program and the long-term availability of TAship resources. Council also noted it would like to hear, at the closure meeting, the DANM Director's opinion on the concerns raised by the ERC regarding graduate program curricular issues (raised in the graduate student survey), and in particular on the four primary areas of emphasis, which were described as too "restrictive" and not conducive to a collaborative environment by the ERC.