

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
November 17, 2016
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Don Smith (Chair), Ben Crow, Michael Dine, Judith Habicht-Mauche, Athanasios Kottas, Roberto Manduchi, Paul Roth, Fitnat Yildiz, Christy Caldwell (Library Rep), Yulia Gilichinskaya (Grad Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Lissa Caldwell, Kimberly Jannarone, Tyrus Miller (ex officio), Melanie Dickinson (Grad Rep), Alexandra Merritt (Grad Rep)

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean, Division of Graduate Studies

Members Items

Guest Assistant Dean Moore reported that admissions meetings with departments have begun. He also reported that the International Doctoral Recruitment Fellowship (IDRF) is moving forward. The first year, funding for the IDRF will come out of the block. The IDRF will replace the nonresident GSR funding currently available. Chair Smith asked if there will be a written summary of the IDRF. Guest Moore replied the Grad Division can provide a written summary.

Chair Smith announced that the NSF Research Training Proposals will be reviewed soon, by a group which will include the Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, Vice Chancellor for Research, two other divisional deans. Two Graduate Council members were selected to serve on the review panel.

GC Delegation Policy

As noted in the Graduate Council charge, the Council monitors and review on an annual basis any delegations of routine administrative decisions related to its academic regulations and policies. Members reviewed the existing “Graduate Council Delegations of Authority” with addition of the re-delegation of the Dissertation Year Fellowship (GC to VPDGS 1/29/16). Graduate Council approved the document.

Computational Media: External Review Deferral Request

GC reviewed the request from the Computational Media Department for a one-year extension on their external review that is set for 2017-18, along with a supporting letter from the BSOE Dean. Graduate Council supported the request.

External Reviews

Stage 2: Comments on ERC Report

Film and Digital Media

The Council commented on the Film and Digital Media (FDM) External Review Committee (ERC) report. The Council noted the ERC’s comments on the strengths of the FDM department’s graduate programs in Social Documentation (M.A.) and its FDM Ph.D. The Council raised a number of questions to address at the closure meeting, including: foci on film production and critical theory, tensions and impact on student concerns, teaching in Social Documentation, allocation of TAs in context of challenges of recruiting and supporting graduate students, departmental governance, and graduate curriculum.

Sociology

The Council commented on the Sociology External Review Committee (ERC) report. The Council noted the ERC's comments on the collegiality and productivity of the faculty, and diversity of its undergraduate major students. The Council also raised questions to address at the closure meeting, including in the following areas: the department's quantitative course offerings, normative time, MA paper requirements, and the student survey results.

Technology and Information Management (TIM) Report

The Council continued review of the report from the Technology Management department for its Technology and Information Management graduate programs, begun at its meeting of October 20, 2016. Members reviewed a broader set of documents related to the Council's recent extensive review of TIM in order to identify additional questions and data needed to assess the programs and decide on the request to reinstate the M.S. program. In addition, the Council considered consultations needed to further facilitate deliberation.

Pre-Consultation Discussion: BSOE Dean

The Council planned for its upcoming consultation (12/1/16) with Baskin School of Engineering Dean Alex Wolf on the topic of the Technology and Information Management graduate programs.