

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 16, 2017
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

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

Absent: Roberto Manduchi

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

Members Items

Graduate Student Rep Dickinson reported that she solicited GSA feedback on the low acceptance rates for Cota-Robles fellowships and more broadly, improving campus climate and improving structures of support for graduate students, feedback that she provided as a document for the Council. Members suggested it would be fruitful for the graduate student representatives to prioritize some of the issues, and work with Council for discussion on how to facilitate moving forward on some of the goals. Members discussed the acceptance rate for the Cota Robles, and VPDGS Miller noted it was not anomalously low.

2017-18 Divisional Faculty FTE Requests

The Council continued its review of the 2017-18 divisional faculty FTE requests.

FTE Transfer Requests

The Council reviewed two FTE transfer requests and accompanying MOUs. Council, during previous review, recommended that MOUs be finalized. GC reviewed the materials in preparation for making its recommendations.

Program Statements

The Council reviewed proposed program statement changes and is requesting additional information before further review of Digital Arts and New Media (DANM) and History.

External Review

Stage 2: Comments on ERC Report

Biomolecular Engineering (BME)

The Council commented on the BME External Review Committee (ERC) report. The Council raised issues to address in the closure meeting, including in the following areas: graduate curriculum, diversity, mentoring and development of professional skills for graduate students, interdivisional collaborations, teaching across departments and space.