

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
March 15, 2018
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Gina Dent (Chair), Lissa Caldwell, Weixin Cheng, Carolyn Dean, Judith Habicht-Mauche, Athanasios Kottas, Alexander Sher, Tyrus Miller (ex officio), Katharin Peter (Library Rep), Amani Liggett (Grad Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Gerald Casel, Ben Crow, Paul Roth

Members Items

Chair Dent announced a change in scheduling for the last GC meeting of the year, which will now take place on June 7.

Members congratulated VPDGS Miller on his appointment as Dean of the School of Humanities at UC Irvine. VPDGS Miller noted there will be an internal search for the new campus VPDGS.

Consultation: Education Chair and Social Sciences Dean

Graduate Council consulted with Social Sciences Dean Katharyne Mitchell and Education Department Chair Judit Moschkovich, as a follow up to the department's fourth annual report to GC on the status of their Ph.D. program. Topics of discussion included vision of the department in context of the expected transition in department leadership, the recent external review, and impacts of the MA/C restructuring on the Ph.D. program.

Review of History Request to Change Normative Time to Degree

The Council reviewed and approved the History Department's request to lengthen normative time for the Ph.D. program from six to seven years. The request letter also contained two additional requests: 1) that the department be allowed to use "time to degree" instead of "normative time" in department materials. Graduate Council noted it had no objection, as long as students are made aware that proposed usage equates to the standard campus usage of "normative time;" and 2) a clarifying edit in department policy to indicate that "any absence from the program, with the exception of an approved medical leave, is not subtracted from the normative time calculation." GC noted there are instances that allow graduate students to extend normative time, and suggested consideration of this in revising the department materials.

Second Revision: Math Bachelor's/Master's Pathway Proposal

The Council reviewed the Math Department's response to GC's request for additional information on their proposal for a bachelor's/master's pathway. Graduate Council approved the proposal for the contiguous five-year Mathematics Bachelor's/Master's pathway, effective beginning fall 2018.

Council requested that the department incorporate the approved catalog copy language for the pathway into its 2018-19 program statement along with additional requested program statement revisions. The Council also requested that at its next external review, the department provide: 1) an update on the number of students attracted each year to the pathway as well as the number of students graduating, and 2) a narrative update on any pedagogical impacts resulting from the reduction of course requirements for the MA program.

Program Statements

The Council reviewed and approved program statement changes for MCD Biology and History of Consciousness, and reviewed and approved pending minor edits proposed changes to the Physics program statement.

2018-19 Faculty FTE Requests

The Council finalized its discussion of the 2018-19 divisional faculty FTE requests and CTOE requests. Council considered the need to strengthen graduate programs along with the EVC's request to consider divisional priorities that would address immediate needs, contribute to diversity, and further existing multi-year hiring plans. This year's Council continued to be guided by principles that stressed why excellent graduate programs should be a high priority for the campus, given that they enhance the campus research profile, are tied to faculty satisfaction and productivity, and are key to the delivery of a high quality undergraduate education. Council recommendations were based on an assessment of the broader impact the requested FTE might have on stabilizing, strengthening, and growing existing doctoral and MFA programs, or contributing to the establishment of new doctoral and MFA programs in areas of need or campus strengths (the latter relevant here mostly to the CTOE process). Council expressed that the most effective way to achieve the goal of doctoral growth is to invest in growing and strengthening departments and programs with faculty able to mentor and support doctoral and MFA students *in numbers appropriate for their discipline*. The Council will send its final recommendations to the CP/EVC.