

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
January 17, 2019
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Gina Dent (Chair), Lissa Caldwell, Sharon Daniel, Andrew Fisher, Robert Johnson, Dejan Milutinovic, Alex Pang, Marianne Weems, Lori Kletzer (ex officio), Katharin Peter (Library Rep), Roy Sfadia (Grad Student Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Pranav Anand, John Bowin, Tracy Larrabee

Guest: none

Members Items

The Council welcomed new member Marianne Weems and new graduate student representative Roy Sfadia.

Chair Dent provided an update on the January 9, 2019 meeting of the systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA). She reported on the progress of proposals from the campus.

Proposal to Discontinue the Science Communication Graduate Academic Certificate

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal to discontinue the Science Communication Graduate Academic Certificate, a proposal set in motion by the program faculty after approval of the Science Communication M.S. (intended to replace the certificate). The proposal for discontinuance of the Science Communication Graduate Academic Certificate was approved.

Proposal for a Designated Emphasis in Computational Media

The faculty in the Computational Media Department submitted a proposal for a Designated Emphasis in Computational Media. The proposal was first reviewed during 2014-15, and revised based on GC feedback and on re-thinking of the proposal given the changes in the department since first submission four years ago. Council raised questions about the proposal for the department to address before further review.

Education Department Reporting: GC Questions

During 2017-18, the Education Department submitted the fourth of four annual reports apprising the Council of the status of the Ph.D. program. GC reviewed and subsequently consulted with the Education Department Chair and Social Sciences Dean (winter 2018) in order to learn more about the department's transition in governance structure and future vision and planning. While Graduate Council noted the department's progress, the Council decided that monitoring of the program would continue, with a revised set of questions provided by GC. The Council deliberated a new set of questions for the department to address.

External Review

Stage 2: Comments on the ERC Report (for closure meeting)

Chemistry and Biochemistry

The Council discussed the documents pertaining to the external review of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department. Members noted the overall positive assessment by the External Review Committee (ERC) but noted that there were some areas from which modest effort might yield more positive outcomes related to researching and teaching/mentoring missions. GC encouraged exploration of how the department might be able to improve its standing relative to departments at peer institutions and gain additional resources for graduate student support. These areas formed the basis for more detailed questions raised in preparation for the closure meeting.

Consultation: VPDGS

Graduate Council consulted formally with VPDGS Kletzer for an overview of the block allocation formula and the Master's Incentive Fund Program (MIP). VPDGS Kletzer informed the Council that for the first time, the full spreadsheet was shared with the faculty outside of GC, and that most appreciated the transparency. Members raised questions about the MIP, particularly around how it is used, and expressing the need for their use toward doctoral growth.

GC Delegation of Authority Document

GC reviewed and revised its Delegations of Authority document.