

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

Present: Gina Dent (Chair), Pranav Anand, John Bowin, Lissa Caldwell, Sharon Daniel, Andrew Fisher, Robert Johnson, Dejan Milutinovic, Alex Pang, Lori Kletzer (ex officio), Katharin Peter (Library Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Tracy Larrabee

Guests: None

Members Items

VPDGS Kletzer announced that she would like to have the Council take up the question of what the role of the GRE is, or should be, in the Cota Robles selection process, particularly in a context where some departments are choosing to make the GRE optional. Members agreed to bring this issue for discussion at the next Council meeting.

VPDGS Kletzer informed members that Emory University has increased its stipend to 31k from 24k (plus fee remission), highlighting the issue of admissions competitiveness.

Revised Proposal for M.S. in Human Computer Interaction (HCI) (PDST)

The Council reviewed the revised proposal to establish an M.S. degree in Human Computer Interaction (HCI) proposed by the Computational Media Department. The program is proposed as a professional degree supplemental tuition (PDST) program. Upon review, the Council decided to seek consultation with CM Chair Jim Whitehead and CM Professor Sri Kurniawan, in order to address questions and issues raised during review of the proposed program proposal.

Theater Arts Fifth Year Certificate Discontinuance

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal to discontinue the Theater Arts Certificate. The proposal was intended for discontinuance after launch of the Theater Arts M.A., but due to an oversight, had not been formally proposed for discontinuance. Graduate Council approved discontinuance of the Theater Arts certificate.

Proactive Agenda: Graduate Growth

GC continued its discussion of graduate growth and strengthening graduate programs within the context of the campus Strategic Academic Plan (SAP). Members further discussed the planned subcommittees on 1) graduate growth and 2) graduate student experience.

Pre-Consultation Discussion: CP/EVC

The Council prepared for its upcoming consultation (11/1/18) with CP/EVC Marlene Tromp.

External Reviews

Stage 1 (Supplemental Questions)

Computational Media

The Council discussed the upcoming external review of the Computational Media department, and raised a set of questions for the external review committee to address, including in the following areas: strategic vision for CM, including vision for future faculty hiring and cross-departmental collaboration within BSOE;

Ph.D. program and funding; professional degree master's programs; diversity at the undergraduate and graduate education levels.

Stage 2 (Comments on the ERC Report)

Linguistics

With member Anand recused, the Council discussed the documents pertaining to the external review of the Linguistics Department. The Council noted that the external review committee (ERC) commended the department for its overall excellence in training and placing students in post-graduate positions. The Council also raised a number of issues to be addressed in the closure meeting, including in the following areas: increasing the size and diversity of the applicant pool, staffing, space needs, graduate student funding, non-course opportunities for methods training, and cross-divisional collaborations.