

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 18, 2018
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Gina Dent (Chair), Pranav Anand, John Bowin, Sharon Daniel, Andrew Fisher, Robert Johnson, Tracy Larrabee, Alex Pang, Lori Kletzer (ex officio), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Lissa Caldwell, Dejan Milutinovic, Katharin Peter (Library Rep)

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies

Members Items

VPDGS Kletzer announced that the campus has a graduate preparation program for international students focused on English for academic purposes, academic skills, and cultural orientation. The program is open to all international students, tailored to those in their first year, and is organized by the Graduate Division and Global Engagement. VPDGS Kletzer would like GC to discuss if the non-credit pass/no pass courses could be offered by the Graduate Division. Chair Dent noted that the Council would need additional information before considering, including the model for a Graduate Division offering.

Chair Dent informed the Council that she was approached by the Chair of the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB), asking her to sign on to an inquiry from CPB and CEP to the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Budget requesting information about TA allocations. The Council was in support of joining CPB and CEP in this effort.

Astronomy & Astrophysics Ph.D. Dual Degree Proposal

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal to establish a Ph.D. dual degree program/pathway between the UCSC Astronomy & Astrophysics department and Swinburne University of Technology Centre for Astrophysics and Supercomputing. The program/pathway would result in selected students receiving a Ph.D. degree from each institution. Council also considered and discussed comments from the Committee on Planning and Budget's (CPB) review of the proposal.

Given that the proposal did not conform to Council's guidelines (GC to VPAA 1/26/18), Council considered the proposal incomplete. Members noted they were unable to make a judgment as to the quality, feasibility, and benefit of establishing this dual degree pathway. The Council requested that the proposers review GC's guidelines and revise the proposal accordingly, reviewing the criteria and addressing these in their proposal. Council also requested inclusion of a cover letter from the UCSC faculty proposers, which should summarize key aspects of the proposal and outline the justification/rationale for the dual degree. Council did have a preliminary discussion of the proposal and agreed that greater international presence and collaboration would generally be beneficial to the campus. Other issues discussed included the overall nature and structure of the program, financial support, and intellectual property questions.

Preliminary Discussion: Role of GRE in the Cota-Robles Fellowship Selection Process

The Council reviewed data on GRE scores as a predictor of graduate student success and within this context, held a preliminary discussion about the role of the GRE in the Cota Robles Fellowship selection process. Members noted that some departments are making the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) optional, consistent with national trends. The Council deliberated what additional information would be needed to fully consider and advise on the role of the GRE in the Cota Robles selection process. VPDGS Kletzer will provide the requested data for a full consideration of this question at the next Council meeting.

External Reviews

Stage 1 (Supplemental Questions)

Philosophy

With member Bowin recused, the Council discussed the upcoming external review of the Philosophy department, and raised a set of questions for the external review committee to address, including in the following areas: intellectual identity and reputation, recruitment and placement of graduate students, faculty FTE recruitments, cross-department collaborations, and professional development opportunities for graduate students.

Psychology

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: graduate student to faculty FTE ratios, graduate mentorship, interdisciplinary collaborations, and faculty FTE planning.