

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

**Present:** Gina Dent (Chair), Pranav Anand, Robert Johnson, Tracy Larrabee, Dejan Milutinovic, Alex Pang, Lori Kletzer (ex officio), Katharin Peter (Library Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

**Absent:** John Bowin, Lissa Caldwell, Sharon Daniel, Andrew Fisher

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

**Members Items**

**Proposal to Reorganize Statistics and Applied Mathematics M.S./Ph.D.**

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal to reorganize the Statistics and Applied Mathematics M.S. and Ph.D., including proposed discontinuance of the Statistics track of the SAM program, simple name change of the program from Statistics and Applied Mathematics to Applied Mathematics, refinement of program faculty of the proposed renamed program to include solely those of the Applied Mathematics department, and change in administrative home of the proposed renamed Applied Mathematics program to the Department of Applied Mathematics. The Council also reviewed the Committee on Planning and Budget's comments on the proposal.

The Council approved discontinuance of the Statistics track of the Statistics and Applied Mathematics graduate program, which has been replaced by the new Statistical Science M.S. and Ph.D.

The Council also approved the simple name change for the SAM graduate program to Applied Mathematics for consideration at CCGA. The Council supported the approval of the redefinition of the program faculty for the renamed program to include solely those of the faculty of the Applied Mathematics Department, and supports a change in the administrative home of the proposed renamed program to the Applied Mathematics Department.

The Council noted that the department of Applied Mathematics will undergo internal review in 2020-21, as part of the CP/EVC's charge to Baskin School of Engineering Dean Wolf to monitor both the newly created Statistics department and Applied Mathematics department as independent units arising from the BSOE reshaping (July 19, 2018). As part of its interest in ensuring the continued success of the Applied Mathematics graduate program, the Council will communicate to Applied Mathematics specific requirements and timeline for reporting to the Council.

**Review: Dissertation Year Fellowship Call, Cota-Robles, Fellowship Call, Rubric and Mentoring Criteria**

Members reviewed the Dissertation Year Fellowship Call and Cota-Robles fellowship call, rubric, and mentoring criteria. Members decided to focus on the Cota-Robles material for today's meeting. The Council discussed the format and content for the nomination letter that will replace the form used in past years, to be incorporated into the fellowship application for the 2019-20 cycle.

**Role of GRE in the Cota Robles and Chancellor's Fellowship for Entering Doctoral Students**

The Council continued its review of data on GRE scores as a predictor of graduate student success, along with additional data provided by VPDGS Kletzer. At today's meeting, the Council finalized its discussion of what the role of the GRE is, or should be, in the Cota Robles fellowship and Chancellor's fellowship for

entering doctoral students selection process. The Council noted that, increasingly, departments/programs at UCSC are not requiring GRE scores for consideration of admission (consistent with national trends). The Council also cited that research has called into question the predictive ability of the GRE for graduate student “success” and has pointed to its particular limitations in predicting success for underrepresented students (URM).

The Council decided that beginning with the 2019-20 cycle, the Cota-Robles fellowship selection process will no longer consider GRE scores. Beginning with the 2019-20 cycle, divisions are encouraged to consider blocking the GRE information in review for the Chancellor’s fellowship for entering doctoral students.

**Systemwide Review: SVSH Policy**

Graduate Council reviewed the revised proposed Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment. During its review, the Council had access to a briefing document on student concerns about the proposed policy, and this briefing document also informed Council discussion. This briefing document was put together by UC Title IX Advisory Board (TIX SB) student representatives. The Council supported some of the concerns, given the Council’s interest that the proposed policy protect graduate students in their multiple and shifting roles as students and university employees. The Council’s discussion focused on several aspects of the proposed policy, including: the characterization of retaliation, the scope of the policy, the time frame for investigation, and, finally, the question of students as responsible employees.

**Mid-Cycle Reports**

The Council reviewed mid-cycle reports for Feminist Studies (with Chair Dent recused), Film and Digital Media, and Sociology. Graduate Council recommended a six year cycle for Feminist Studies, seven year cycle for Film and Digital Media, and eight year cycle for Sociology. Recommendations were in concurrence with the VPAA’s recommendations.