

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 13, 2020
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Don Smith (Chair), Nameera Akhtar, Banu Bargu, John Bowin, Andrew Fisher, Daniel Friedman, Nobuhiko Kobayashi, Longzhi Lin, Patricia Pinho, Quentin Williams (ex officio), Katharin Peter (Library Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Edward Shanken, Elizabeth Goldman (Grad Rep),

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean, Graduate Division

Member Items

Chair Smith provided an update on the systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) meeting of February 5, 2020. He reported that topics of discussion included the issue of assessing SSGPDPs and their possible impact on state supported programs, as well as their ongoing review.

Chair Smith announced that the iCP/EVC has sent out the annual faculty FTE call and briefly discussed Senate (GC and CPB) review of submissions, expected soon.

Chair Smith shared with Graduate Council that he received an email from graduate student representative Goldman regarding a concern with letters of warning that students were receiving, which felt overly threatening. She asked that the letter be provided to Council. Members briefly discussed the letter.

Debrief Cota Robles Review

The Cota Robles (CR) fellowship review committee provided an overview of this year's CR review. The fellowship committee led a discussion of changes that could improve the process to improve collaboration between the committee (i.e. developing a rubric, shared review criteria, having the committee meet prior to finalizing scores). Members also discussed the need to provide guidance on mentoring plans submitted with candidate applications. GC will plan to discuss this issue in depth in the fall, in time for changes to be implemented with the next cycle of CR review.

Delegations of Authority for 2019-20

Council reviewed and approved its delegations of authority document for 2020-21. Council decided to extend the delegation of review of graduate courses of instruction (including new courses, changes in existing courses, and course discontinuations) to the Committee on Courses of Instruction (CCI) for an additional year.

Mid-Cycle Reports

Graduate Council reviewed the bundled mid-cycle reports forward for Senate review and made recommendations on length of external review cycle. GC concurred with VPAA Lee's recommendation for an eight year review cycle for Astronomy and Astrophysics, and with his recommendation for a seven year cycle for History, and with a six year cycle for music. With member Fisher and ex officio member aVPDGS Williams, recused, Graduate Council reviewed the report for Earth and Planetary Sciences (EPS), and noted that the mid cycle report only minimally addressed questions related to the graduate program. Council recommended a six or seven year review cycle for EPS.

SSGPDP Campus Process Guidelines

Graduate Council reviewed the draft revised *Guidelines for the Development of New Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Program Proposals at UC Santa Cruz*. Council had previously reviewed and commented on an earlier version of these guidelines (GC to Senate Chair dated December 17, 2018). In this current review, Council discussed the state of Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDPs) across the UC system, noting 1) these programs have grown significantly in number to serve the needs of students and generate resources for state-supported programs, 2) UC's expectation that SSGPDPs should not negatively impact state-supported programs in any way, directly or indirectly, and 3) the true impact of SSGPDPs on state-supported programs remains unclear, in part because of the relative newness of these programs, and also because there are not well-established procedures for tracking the impacts of SSGPDPs on state-supported programs, including but not limited to financial investment versus return of SSGPDPs as well as their indirect impacts on state programs through increased faculty workload not captured through formal buyouts.

Council found the revised draft guidelines generally acceptable, and made specific comments for further improvement of the draft, including in sections related to Senate faculty involvement (teaching on overload basis or buyouts), market analysis, resource analysis, program sustainability, teaching assignments, and program evaluation.

Program Statement Review

Graduate Council continued review of graduate program statements (Computer Science & Engineering, Biomolecular Engineering).

External Reviews

Stage 2: Comments on ERC Report (Closure Meeting Preparation)

Philosophy

With member Bowin recused, Council discussed the documents pertaining to the external review of the Philosophy department. Graduate Council was in broad agreement with ERC recommendations, including regarding continued faculty hiring in strategic areas to increase breadth and depth of expertise, stabilizing leadership for the Center for Public Philosophy, revamping the graduate curriculum, enhanced and more structured professional development for graduate students, and improvements to department climate. Graduate Council also raised questions for discussion at the closure meeting, including in the following areas: growth and operational plan for the next five years, curriculum, faculty mentoring, departmental plans for addressing climate issues, and staff support.