

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 14, 2020
307 Kerr Hall, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Present: Don Smith (Chair), Banu Bargu, John Bowin, Sharon Daniel, Andrew Fisher, Daniel Friedman, Nobuhiko Kobayashi, Longzhi Lin, Alex Pang, Patricia Pinho, Edward Shanken, Quentin Williams (ex officio), Katharin Peter (Library Rep), Elizabeth Goldman (Grad Rep), Daniel Rodriguez Ramirez (Grad Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: None.

Guest: Jim Moore, Assistant Dean, Graduate Division

Member Items

Chair Smith provided an update on the systemwide CCGA meeting of May 6, 2020. He reported that the 18 quarter ASE limit was discussed, including possible next steps to bring about an extension of this limit given the impact of COVID-19. Other topics included dual degree programs and how campuses are responding to the COVID-19 crisis.

Chair Smith reminded members that the Senate meeting is taking place tomorrow, May 15, 2020.

GSIs for Graduate Courses: Criteria, Guidelines, Process

Chair Smith provided an overview of the existing process to appoint Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs) for graduate courses. The Council considered revising its policy, guidelines, and process for appointment of GSI's, in order to reflect the role of faculty mentors in overseeing the assessment and grading process for GSI taught graduate courses. Council expects to review a revised draft form incorporating issues raised in today's discussion at a later meeting.

Revised Proposal: ECE Bachelor's/Master's Pathway

The Electrical and Computer Engineering department submitted a revised proposal, responding to GC requests for revisions, for a five-year contiguous bachelor's/master's path coordinating existing baccalaureate majors, including in Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Robotics Engineering with the existing Electrical and Computer Engineering M.S. The revised proposal clarified that courses required for an undergraduate major cannot also be counted towards the Electrical and Computer Engineering MS degree. It also clarified the benefit to students, and that the 4+1 pathway may be particularly suited to those students from Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, or Robotics Engineering majors. The pathway was approved for a fall 2020 launch will appear in the 2020-21 catalog.

Consultation: aVPDGS

Graduate Council consulted with aVPDGS Williams on graduate applications, admissions, and acceptances. aVPDGS Williams reported that this year saw a high percentage of offers accepted, higher than other years, with raw numbers comparable to last year. Graduate Council also requested, given concerns previously raised by Graduate Deans about racial/ethnic diversity, an update on racial/ethnic diversity in application, acceptance, and admission data in context of the Graduate Division's goals for increasing diversity. Data was provided on race/ethnicity by admissions. Graduate Council will request the additional racial/ethnic data covering applicants, offers, and acceptances, by division. GC has will also request data on international students, including international students by country. GC hopes to receive this data for consideration in fall 2020.

Feminist Studies Report

The Council reviewed the response from Feminist Studies and the Humanities Dean to GC's previous request (6/28/2019). GC monitoring of the Feminist Studies department has been ongoing since fall 2016, when the Council became aware of issues impacting the graduate program and its graduate students through the External Review process. Council noted that they found some aspects of the report encouraging, but raised continuing concerns about gaps in the report and areas that were not adequately addressed. GC will request additional information for further review, to be submitted in time for review at the last spring meeting.