

November 27, 2024

PETER BIEHL
Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies

TCHAD SANGER
University Registrar

Re: Graduate Policy Change: Academic Probation to Academic Notice

Dear Peter and Tchad,

On November 7, 2024, Graduate Council (GC) voted in favor of replacing the term “probation” with “academic notice” as the designation given to graduate students who fail to meet minimum standards for academic progress as defined in UC Santa Cruz graduate policy. GC members voted 7 in favor and 1 against.

This is a conforming change that aligns graduate policy on our campus with systemwide undergraduate policy, as per revisions to Senate Regulations 900 and 902 that the Assembly of the Academic Senate approved on June 21, 2024. GC also believes this is a positive change that will reduce stigma, potentially ameliorating graduate student anxiety about probation/notice, and encouraging faculty to more readily utilize processes that help graduate students achieve their educational goals.

This language change from “probation” to “academic notice” in UCSC graduate policy takes effect immediately, and it is GC’s understanding that the change has already been applied to [Appendix D](#), as published in the online Academic Senate Manual.

Graduate Division, the Office of the Registrar, and other campus units should also implement conforming changes to any policy or practice that relates to “academic notice” for graduate students.

Sincerely,



Chad Saltikov, Chair
Graduate Council

cc: Lori Kletzer, Campus Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
Richard Hughey, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education
Dard Neuman, Associate Dean of Graduate Student Success
Don Smith, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs
Stephanie Casher, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies

Amanda Rysling, Chair, Committee on Courses of Instruction

Tanner WouldGo, Chair, Committee on Educational Policy

Faculty Graduate Director

Graduate Program Coordinators

Kalin McGraw, Associate Registrar

Matthew Mednick, Executive Director, Academic Senate