

GRADUATE COUNCIL 2004-2005 Annual Report

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

The Council met bi-weekly during the academic year, with a total of 15 regularly scheduled meetings over the course of the year. An additional ad-hoc meeting was held in the Spring term to follow through on an Appeal of Academic Judgment that was brought before the Council late in the academic year. The voting membership of the council comprised: Ram Akella, Donna Hunter (Vice-Chair), Robert Johnson, Norma Klahn, Ronnie Lipschutz, Pradip Mascharak, Lisa Rofel, Barbara Rogoff, Bruce Schumm (Chair), Marilyn Westerkamp, with Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Dean Robert Miller sitting *ex officio*. Associate Dean for Graduate Studies Lisa Sloan attended most meetings. Meetings were also attended by Laurie Babka of the Academic Senate staff, Bob Hastings of the Graduate Division, Graduate Student Association Representatives Kai Pommerenke, Lisa Downward, and Susanne Altermann, Postdoctoral Scholars Association representative Brian Ackley, and LAUC representatives Beth Remak-Honnet (F,S) and Catherine Soehner (W). Chair Schumm served as a representative to the systemwide Coordinating Council on Graduate Affairs (CCGA), the WASC executive committee, the Senate Executive Committee, the Chancellor's Advisory Board, and the Academic Advisory Committee. Vice-Chair Hunter served as the Graduate Council Representative on the University Librarian Search Committee. Guests to the Graduate Council in 2004-2005 included Chancellor Denice Denton, Academic Senate Vice-Chair Faye Crosby, Professor June Gordon, CSU Monterey Bay Education Professors Linda Rogers and Patricia Whang, San Jose State University Education Professor Barbara Gottesman, UCSC Extension Director of English Language International Programs Susie Miller, UCSC Extension Academic Coordinator Lori Buehring, and Graduate Student Association Secretary Allison Luengen.

1. Graduate Council Organization

The 11-member Graduate Council designated several subcommittees that met separately throughout the year. The Council continued to have standing committees on Courses (Rofel, Klahn, Mascharak) and Program Degree Requirements/Catalog Copy (Johnson, Westerkamp, Hunter). In addition, ad hoc subcommittees were formed for the Cota Robles (Lipschutz, Klahn, Schumm, Westerkamp) and Dissertation Year (Rofel, Johnson) fellowships and TA award processes (Rogoff, Mascharak), and program external review (see below). The Council as a whole reviewed new program proposals as well as all other academic and policy issues that arose that were related to Graduate education.

The Council depends critically on the Senate staff for its efficient functioning and for providing vital institutional memory; as always, it is deeply indebted to Laurie Babka for her knowledgeable, patient, and good-humored support throughout the year.

2. The Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA)

The systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) is charged with assessing new graduate programs and recommending for or against their approval. It examines each program proposal rigorously, making use of external reviews from referees both within and without the UC system. Additionally, the advice of the CCGA is solicited for all systemwide policies related to graduate and post-doctoral education. During the 2004-2005 academic year, the proposal for a joint Doctorate (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership between UCSC, Cal State

Monterey Bay, and San Jose State University was reviewed and approved, leaving UC Riverside as the only eligible UC campus without an approved joint Ed.D. program. Graduate Council Chair Schumm served as the lead reviewer for two new program proposals: the UCD/Sacramento State/Sonoma State Ed.D. proposal, and a proposal for a Masters Degree in Global and International Studies at UC Santa Barbara. Specific topics of policy discussed at CCGA during the 2003-2004 academic year included:

- California State Senate Bill SB 724 that would grant Cal State the right to award all higher degree titles except those (such as the Ph.D.) geared towards preparation for university faculty research and teaching
- Senate Regulation 600(B) on the granting of higher degrees to members of the same divisional academic senate as the awarding department
- An Academic Council resolution, motivated by several departments' votes to prohibit members' acceptance of funds from tobacco companies, reserving the right to restrict sources of funding to the Regents
- Funding models for graduate study, especially for non-resident and international students
- Trends in the enrollment of international students
- Senate Regulation 694 on residency requirements (see item below)

3. Oversight of the Mathematics Ph.D. Program

In 2002-2003, Graduate Council exercised its plenary authority by suspending admissions to the Mathematics Program, beginning with the 2003-2004 academic year. In re-authorizing admissions to the program for 2004-2005, the Council stipulated that the Division provide the Council with annual reports on Mathematics graduate curriculum, enrollments, hiring and personnel actions, and student quality and welfare. This report was made available by Dean of Physical and Biological Sciences Kliger in early October. In addition to this report, which was reviewed by the full Council, a Council member (Rogoff) reviewed the course evaluations for all Graduate courses taught in 2003-2004. The Council was satisfied that the Mathematics Graduate Program was operating at a level warranting continued admissions to the Ph.D. program. The Council will continue to review the program in this way on a yearly basis, until the Council deems by formal vote that the reviews are no longer necessary.

4. New Program Proposals

The Council reviewed and approved proposals for two new Doctoral programs: a Joint Doctorate (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership between UCSC, CSU Monterey Bay, and San Jose State University, and a Ph.D. in Music.

Chair Schumm, who had experience in joint doctoral programs in educational leadership from his role as CCGA's lead reviewer for the UCSD and UCD proposals, worked closely with UCSC proponent June Gordon to polish the proposal to meet the complex requirements for joint doctoral ventures. When the proposal came before the Council, a number of further questions were raised that were adequately addressed by UCSC and CSU administrators, as well as the lead proponents from each of the three campuses. The Council approved the proposal on November 18, 2004, and the proposal was sent forward to the Office of the President, where it received CCGA approval in June for admission in the 2005-2006 academic year. We look forward to our first cohort in the program, which is part of a conscious and visible effort on the part of the Office of the President to enhance the contribution and influence of the University in California's K-14 educational system.

The Council found only relatively minor concerns with the Music Ph.D. proposal, which were quickly addressed by the department. The proposal was approved by the Council on May 18, 2004, and will be sent forward to UCOP in September.

In conducting its reviews of these proposals, the Council was well advised by its sister committee, the Committee on Planning and Budget. The Council would like to acknowledge the essential role played by CPB in the proposal review process.

5. Graduate Program Review

During the 2003-2004 academic year, the results of the following programs' periodic reviews came to the attention of the Graduate Council: Music, Psychology, and Earth Sciences. Reports from the Graduate Council were generated under the lead of members Westerkamp, Rofel, and Johnson, respectively. No major problems were identified in any of these three programs; in all cases, the external reviewers were quite favorably impressed by the overall quality of the Graduate-education related components of the departments.

In addition, the Graduate Council consulted with Vice Provost of Academic Affairs George Brown on the revision of procedures for the review of academic programs. Several suggestions provided to VPAA Brown, based on its experience during the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 academic years, were incorporated by VPAA Brown for future reviews.

6. Parenthetical Notations

The 2004-2005 academic year was the first for which the Council's policy on approval of parenthetical notations was in effect. This policy makes a clear distinction between programs offering to host the curriculum for the subject matter of the notation, and client programs that wish to make use of that curriculum in developing a secondary (parenthetical) concentration, and sets forth criteria that must be satisfied will by the host and client programs. Based on correspondence received by the Council, the policy seems to provide a good context for the consideration and proposal of parenthetical courses of study. Two new parenthetical offerings (a concentration in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology within the Environmental Studies Ph.D., and the option of a parenthetical notation in Latin American and Latino Studies for Environmental Studies Ph.D. students) were reviewed and approved under this new policy.

7. Oral Language Skills for International Students

By California legislative order, oral language skills of international students whose native language is not English are assessed via a formal test before they begin their first teaching assignment. Students who do not pass the test at a sufficient level are required to enroll in a remediation course, Ling X444, managed by the UCSC extension. Both the test and the mode of delivery of the class had changed since prior Graduate Council review of the remediation procedures, in 2001-2002. At that time, the remediation class was sponsored by the Division of Natural Sciences (now the Division of Physical and Biological Sciences), and the Council approved the SPEAK test for assessing spoken language skills. The Division of P&BS stopped sponsoring the remediation class in 2002 in order to conserve resources, leaving it to the UCSC Extension to provide it for a fee to either the student or sponsoring department. In addition, the SPEAK test, which involved in-person assessment by language experts, was deemed to be too costly, and the Spoken English Test (SET 10), which relies on computerized assessment, was

substituted for the SPEAK test in 2004. Neither of these changes was done with the cognizance of the Graduate Council.

As a result, the Council felt compelled to review the Extension's delivery of the remediation class, and the efficacy and fairness of the SET 10 test. Testimony by Susie Miller, UCSC Extension Director of English Language International Programs, and Lori Buehring, UCSC Extension Academic Coordinator, satisfied the Council that the delivery of the remediation course was being expertly handled. Concrete statistical data also confirmed the validity of the SET 10 exam; however, given the computerized nature of the exam, the Council instructed Extension to develop an appeals policy for students and advisors who felt the SET 10 assessment to be in error. With input from the Council, Extension developed the appeals policy, which was approved on February 24, 2005.

8. Graduate Catalog Rights

Graduate Student Association representative Pommerenke pointed out that, unlike undergraduates, graduate students do not have recourse to the UCSC General Catalog as the document of record for degree requirements. The Council drafted and passed language awarding catalog rights to graduate students commensurate with those enjoyed by undergraduates. Graduate catalog rights will be effective beginning with the 2006-2007 academic year. A memo was sent to departments and programs apprising them of the need to have degree requirements explicitly enumerated in the General Catalog.

9. Catalog Copy and Degree Requirements

One of the essential roles of the Graduate Council is to monitor graduate program degree requirements. The Council recommended to VPAA Brown that an assessment of degree requirements be a part of the standard charge to review committees during the periodic external review of departments and programs. In addition, the Council reviews all proposed degree requirement changes. In 2004-2005, the Council reviewed and approved degree and admissions requirement changes for graduate programs in Music, Education, Electrical Engineering, Social Documentation, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Engineering, and Environmental Studies.

During the 2002-2003 academic year, the Graduate Council became aware that the degree requirements of a number of graduate programs had changed without Council review. As a result, the Council undertook a systematic review of graduate program degree requirements, asking all programs to summarize degree requirement changes enacted since the comprehensive review of Ph.D. programs in 1993, and to state whether these changes had been approved by the Council. The Council then reviewed degree requirement changes for programs that had changed requirements without Council approval. Since not all departments responded promptly, this review continued through the 2004-2005 academic year. At the close of this year, graduate programs in Mathematics (Ph.D.), Environmental Studies and Psychology have still to comply with the Council's request to disclose degree requirement changes since 1993.

It is expected that the imposition of Graduate Catalog rights will inspire programs to review their catalog copy and ensure that degree requirements are comprehensively represented in the General Catalog. The Council does not permit catalog copy to reference other documents or WEB materials; all substantive requirements must be represented explicitly in the Catalog. This establishes a fail-safe, in that if a program neglects to secure Council approval for a degree requirement change, the change will be flagged by Publications and Scheduling as they do their

annual catalog updates, and referred to the Council for review (at the cost of potential delay of the implementation of the changes).

10. Remote Learning and On-Line Classes

At the request of VPAA Brown, the Council stated its intention to establish guidelines for the approval of courses delivered at remote sites, by video link, or through the WEB or other on-line resource. Although a Council subcommittee was established to explore this, Chair Schumm found substantial interest in the issues with the University as a whole. As a result, a CCGA subcommittee was established (including 2005-2006 CCGA Chair Duncan Lindsey of UCLA) to explore policy and best practices. Immediately at hand was Academic Senate Regulation 694, which sets forth residency requirements for Masters programs. Current, the CCGA subcommittee foresees addressing remote delivery issues in SR 694, and the introduction of a new regulation (SR 695) relating to on-line delivery of instruction. The subcommittee has drafted revised language for SR 694, but is in the early stages of discussion about SR 695. Since these are changes and additions to systemwide regulations, it is expected that the process will take 1-2 years to play out.

11. Appeal of Academic Judgment

The Council heard an appeal of academic judgment in its June 2 meeting. In the processing of specifying the rules and procedures for the appeal, the Council explored practices at other UC campuses. Based on this review, and its experiences in the Spring term appeal, the Council may want to consider refinements to the current policy regarding the appeal of academic judgments, which is spelled out in the Graduate Student Handbook.

12. Chancellor's Visit

Chancellor Denton took the time to visit the Council for 45 minutes at its May 19, 2005 meeting. The Council presented Chancellor Denton with a list of its high-priority issues, of which it had apprised the Chancellor in an earlier memo. These issues included the incorporation of graduate study into planning for future growth, addressing the \$2,000-plus gap in graduate student support relative to national norms, increased focus on graduate education by the campus development office, addressing UCSC's declining competitiveness for non-resident and international students, securing and maintaining adequate library resources for graduate education, and the affordability of graduate student housing. The Chancellor seemed receptive to the points the Council raised.

13. Course Review

As in previous years, the Subcommittee reviewed all new course proposals, as well as any course change requests that were not deemed to be pro-forma according to previously established course review policy.

14. Graduate Students Welfare

The Council continued to enjoy a strong collaborative relationship with the Graduate Student Association, taking great benefit from the contributions of representatives Pommerenke, Downward, and Altermann. The Council provided support to the Association in the areas of graduate student housing and health care, after-hours parking, and the establishment of Catalog rights. An issue raised by the Association late in the Spring term – that of the recourse available

to students who have unsatisfactory experiences with advisors and mentors – is of great interest to the Council, and is expected to be taken under consideration by the next year’s Council.

15. Statements of Position

A number of issues came before the Council, or were raised by Council members, that required the generation of memos presenting the stance of the Council. These included the Long Range Development Plan draft, proposed systemwide policy on restrictions on the source of research funding, systemwide Senate Regulation SR 600B on the conferral of higher degrees to members of the awarding program’s own academic senate, proposed changes to transportation and parking policy, and the draft Educational Effectiveness document for the WASC review. Copies of the Council’s statements of position are available from the Academic Senate Office upon request.

16. Issues Carrying Forward to 2005-6

- Degree requirements for programs that have yet to comply with the request to report; reminding departments of Graduate Student Catalog rights as of 2006-2007
- Comprehensive review of Graduate education policy, procedure, and bylaws, with an eye towards consistency and currency
- Review of the policies and procedures for appealing academic judgments
- Continuing the development of the concept of the Graduate College
- Graduate Student Welfare, including the perennial issues of housing and health care
- Pressing the case for increasing fundraising for the campus’s graduate program
- Continued probationary oversight of the Mathematics Ph.D. program
- Assessment of the health of the Extension certificate program in Science Illustration
- Reconsideration of the policy on distribution of Block Allocation funds, in light of new degree titles such as D.M.A. and Ed.D.
- Review of recourse available to Graduate Students in case of abusive or negligent advisory relationships
- Reconsideration of policy on the application to multiple Graduate programs by a single applicant
- Efficacy of review procedures for newly proposed or revised Graduate courses

Respectfully submitted,

GRADUATE COUNCIL

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Donna Hunter

Robert Johnson

Norma Klahn

Ronnie Lipschutz

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Lisa Rofel

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September 29, 2005