

## **GRADUATE COUNCIL 2007-2008 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. The voting membership of the Council comprised: Gopal Balakrishnian, Claude Bernasconi (W, S), Robert Boltje (F), Sue Carter, Donka Farkas (W, S), Patricia Gallagher, Greg Gilbert, Ronnie Lipschutz (F), Bruno Sanso, Susan Schwarz, Michael Urban (W, S) with Tyrus Miller (Chair, F, W) and Michael Urban (Chair, S), and with Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Lisa Sloan sitting *ex officio*. Meetings were also attended by Laurie Babka of the Academic Senate staff, Bob Hastings of the Graduate Division; Graduate Student Association Representatives Teresa Betts, Chelsey Juarez, and Nick Reynolds, Postdoctoral Scholars Association Representative Jason Triplett; and LAUC Representative Beth Remak-Honnet. Guests included Chancellor George Blumenthal, VC Felicia McGinty, VPDUE William Ladusaw, Acting Dean of Engineering Michael Isaacson, Library Collections Director Robin Dale, Lindsey Bass (Planning and Budget), Education Graduate Director Judith Scott, and Tyrus Miller (as Associate Graduate Dean). In their capacity as split year Chairs, Tyrus Miller and Michael Urban served as representatives to the systemwide Coordinating Council on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) and the Senate Executive Committee. After the Winter quarter, Chair Tyrus Miller stepped down to become Associate Dean of Graduate Studies; the Chair's position was taken over by Michael Urban in the Spring; Susan Schwarz served as Vice Chair all year and attended an SEC meeting in Tyrus Miller's absence.

### **1. Graduate Council organization**

Several subcommittees met separately, both throughout and at particular moments in the year. The standing Subcommittee on Courses included Gopal Balakrishnan, Robert Boltje (F), Donka Farkas (W), Greg Gilbert (S), and Patty Gallagher. During Winter quarter, Bruno Sanso, Susan Schwartz, Sue Carter, and Patty Gallagher evaluated applications for the Cota-Robles Fellowships. In the Spring Quarter, Bruno Sanso and Greg Gilbert reviewed Dissertation Year Fellowship candidates, and Sue Carter and Claude Bernasconi were central to the Outstanding Teaching Assistant competition.

Laurie Babka of the ASO provided invaluable and highly professional support to the Council, bringing experience, good humor, patience, and a remarkably clear understanding of both the issues and the implications of decisions and choices made by GC about them; Bob Hastings' historical memory, detailed knowledge, and forthright counsel was similarly appreciated. Graduate Council thanks both of these colleagues for their extremely valuable participation in our work this past year.

### **2. New program proposals**

In June 2008, after a detailed and extensive review, GC approved the proposal for an MS and PhD in Technology and Information Management. The proposal will now be sent forward to CCGA for review.

A new procedure was instituted for assessing newly proposed programs, whereby resubmission of proposals after initial Senate review, must be accompanied by a letter and clearly annotated version indicating all changes to the original proposal made in response to objections or recommendations of the committees of the Academic Senate.

### **3. Graduate program review**

GC had a very packed schedule of current and forthcoming external reviews of graduate programs. External Reviews conducted during 2007-08 included Anthropology, Community Studies, EE Biology, Environmental Toxicology, HAVC, Philosophy, Writing Program. GC also responded to the draft charges for External Reviews in History of Consciousness, Astronomy and Astrophysics, Computer Engineering, Literature, Information Systems Management, Mathematics, Ocean Sciences, Politics, Sociology, and Theater Arts. GC approved a one-year deferral of the Chemistry External Review.

### **4. Parenthetical Degree Notations**

Graduate Council approved several parenthetical degree notations:

- Education to offer Sociology parenthetical to Education.
- Sociology to offer Education parenthetical to Sociology PhDs.
- Education to offer LALS parenthetical to Education PhDs.
- Applied Math and Statistics Department to offer a graduate parenthetical degree notation in Statistics.
- Computer Science to offer the Statistics parenthetical degree notation to CS doctoral students.
- HAVC to offer a parenthetical degree notation in Visual Studies.

### **5. Graduate Program Changes**

- In October 2007, GC approved the Education PhD request to allow an alternative “3-paper” option for the PhD thesis.
- In January 2008, GC approved a request from the Music Department to add an MA degree option for students continuing to the DMA and PhD in Music.
- In January 2008, GC approved curricular changes to the MA and PhD in Statistics and Stochastic Modeling.
- In April 2008, GC approved a request by the Politics Department to require PhD students to take a higher number of graduate electives in the department (raised to 9 courses).

- In April 2008, GC approved a request by ETOX to change its name to Microbiology and Environmental Toxicology.
- In May 2008, GC approved a request for a simple name change from Statistics and Stochastic Modeling to Statistics and Applied Mathematics.
- In May 2008, GC approved a request by Electrical Engineering for a change in the EE Preliminary Exam from oral to written.
- In May 2008, GC approved changes to some course requirements in Bioinformatics.
- In June 2008, GC approved a simple name change from Bioinformatics to Bioinformatics and Biomolecular Engineering.

## **6. Graduate Policies**

- Following up on the last two years' detailed work and incorporating responses from RJ&E and campus counsel, GC finalized the revised policy for Graduate Academic Appeals. The revised policy will appear in the Graduate Handbook and the Academic Senate Manual Appendix D.
- AMS Appendix D. has been enlarged under recommendations from the Chair of Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections and GC concurrence to include a number of pertinent policy items from the Graduate Handbook.

## **7. Professional School Forum and Pre-Proposals**

Working with other Senate officers and committees, GC participated in the forum in which Professional School pre-proposals were presented. These pre-proposals were discussed in GC meetings and comments relayed to the Senate leadership and the proposers.

## **8. Graduate Student Welfare**

GC discussed and approved a policy put forward by the Division of Graduate Studies that explicitly establishes the guidelines for extensions of normative time related to childbearing or childrearing.

## **8. Other business**

In early Fall 2007, GC discussed and gave an affirmative response to the request by a Feminist Studies professor to transfer her FTE from Feminist Studies to reside fully in the Department of History. GC noted the possible impact on the proposal for a PhD program in Feminist Studies and advised the Dean of Humanities to communicate clearly with Feminist Studies about the prospects and time frame for realizing their PhD aspirations.

Charged to send to CCGA for expedited review all revised Education Ed.D. programs that were originally joint UC-CSU programs, GC reviewed and responded to the

Education Department's drafts and helped finalize a version to send up for CCGA review.

GC discussed the long-term enrollment projections requested by UCOP from the campuses, which particularly concerned the growth of graduate and professional enrollment and the projections for increased funding in these areas.

On the basis of a document from CCGA Chair Bruce Schumm raising questions and options about the use of telecast and other remote teaching technologies, the Graduate Council discussed this topic. It was agreed that joint discussion of the topic with CEP in the future would be useful, although no definite meeting or agenda was established.

GC discussed and commented on the Strategic Plan Vision Statement, the Joint Task Force Report on International Education, and the Regents' Report on Diversity, and the updated Academic Plan Implementation, afterwards sending our remarks on to Senate Chair Quentin Williams.

## **9. Looking to the coming year**

In its final meeting in June 2008, GC listed outstanding issues for next year. These included:

- DANM degree changes
- Academic Freedom for graduate students (especially TAs leading discussion sessions)
- Redraft Parenthetical Degree Notations Policy?
- Should narrative evaluations be abolished for graduate students?

More generally, the coming year will be dominated by the crisis in the state and university budgets; it will be crucial in this fiscal climate to protect as much as possible the quality, size, and diversity of our graduate programs. We must seek to ensure that, in spite of possible short-term setbacks, we continue to make progress on our longer-term goals for augmenting graduate education at UCSC.

Respectfully submitted,

### **GRADUATE COUNCIL**

Gopal Balakrishnan

Claude Bernasconi (W,S)

Robert Boltje (F)

Sue Carter

Donka Farkas (W,S)

Patricia Gallagher

Greg Gilbert

Ronnie Lipschutz (F)

Bruno Sanso

Susan Schwartz

Beth Remak-Honnef, LAUC Rep.

Teresa Betts, GSA Rep.

Lisa Sloan, *ex officio*  
Michael Urban (W)  
Tyrus Miller, Chair (F,W)  
Michael Urban (S)

Chelsey Juarez, GSA Rep.  
Nick Reynolds (F), GSA Rep.  
Kirsten Howley (W,S), GSA Rep.  
Jason Triplett, PSA Rep.

October 6, 2008