

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)

March 16, 2017

10:30-12:00 PM KL 362

Documents available at: [UCM BOX](#)

- I. **Chair's Report – Ramesh Balasubramaniam**
 - a. CCGA Meeting - March 1, 2017
- II. **Vice Chair's Report – Teamrat Ghezzehei**
 - a. Academic Degree Program Policy working group
- III. **Consent Calendar**
 - a. Approval of the February 23, 2017 minutes p. 4
 - b. Approval of the March 16, 2017 agenda
 - c. CRFs (reviewed and approved by CRF subcommittee)
 - i. [QSB 275 – Epigenetics & Gene expression](#)
- IV. **Continuing Fellowship Awards (Nancy Burke and Eric Cannon)**
 - a. **Background:** GC is responsible for reviewing applications for seven Continuing Fellowships, with three reviewers assigned to assess each application. The GC Analyst will make review assignments and provide applications and scoresheets to each reviewer.
 - b. **Action:** GC to discuss the process for review and assessment of assigned applications, with scores returned to GC Analyst by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 31, for discussion at the April 6 GC meeting.
- V. **[Extension Course Approval Process](#)**
 - a. **Background:** UC Merced University Extension (UNEX) is planning to offer for-credit courses (1 and 2 unit) starting in Summer of 2017. As lead committee, GC is asked to develop a policy covering the assessment and evaluation of these courses and programs. UNEX has provided additional information including members for a proposed Curriculum Board and a list of courses that are proposed for summer and fall 2017 in [a memo](#) received on March 3, 2017. The GC Chair and Senate Office staff have drafted a [preliminary memo](#) that will be updated with GC's decisions.
 - b. **Action:** GC will review the memo provided by UNEX and the drafted memo containing GC's response, which will contain vote results on the following questions: 1) will GC adopt an approval process consistent with the practices of other UC campuses and Senate Regulation 792, 2) will GC vote to approve the establishment of a Curriculum Board, as suggested by UNEX, and 3) with what regularity would GC prefer to receive a report of UNEX course offerings and evidence of quality?
- VI. **[Report of the Committee for the Review of Graduate PLO Reports, AY 14-15 and 15-16](#)**
 - a. **Background:** The Periodic Review Oversight Committee ([PROC](#)) has provided a report summarizing their review of the graduate program assessment reports (PLO reports) submitted to PROC in AY 2014-15 and AY 2015-16. PROC provides this report to GC for informational use, as well as requests the aid of GC in identifying the findings most relevant to graduate groups, graduate education, and graduate success at UC Merced,

and disseminating that information to graduate chairs, faculty, and/or graduate support staff, as appropriate.

- b. **Action:** GC to discuss the findings in the report and consider the appropriate means for disseminating the included information to relevant parties as requested by PROC.

VII. Senate Award for Distinguished Graduate Teaching/Mentorship

- a. **Background:** GC is responsible for forming an ad-hoc committee with a minimum of three Senate faculty, having a balanced representation of academic areas, to review the nominations and select an awardee for this Senate award. Nominations are due to the Senate Office by 5:00 PM on March 22.
- b. **Action:** GC to discuss how the ad-hoc committee will be comprised.

VIII. Committee Review Items

- a. **Proposal for a Major in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies**
 - i. **Background:** Senate Chair Amussen has requested review and comments on a Proposal for a Major in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies. UGC and CAPRA are lead committees for this review. The UGC *Policy for the Review and Approval of Undergraduate Degree Programs* is available [here](#) to assist discussion.
 - ii. **Action:** GC sends comments to senatechair@ucmerced.edu by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.
- b. **Proposal for an English Honors Program**
 - i. **Background:** Senate Chair Amussen has requested review and comments on a *Proposal for English Honors Program*. UGC is the lead committee for this review.
 - ii. **Action:** GC sends comments to senatechair@ucmerced.edu by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.
- c. **Proposal for UCM GE Program**
 - i. **Background:** UGC Chair Zanzucchi has requested comments on a Proposal for a UC Merced General Education Program. This proposal addresses the elements typically expected in a proposal for a new undergraduate program. Per UGC, the assessment plan (page 18) is currently being more fully developed, and a revised plan will be submitted to UGC by April 5. UGC, CAPRA, and GC are lead committees on this review.
 - ii. **Action:** GC sends comments to ge@ucmerced.edu by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 5, 2017.
- d. **Proposals for Five New Academic Units in the School of Engineering**
 - i. **Background:** The School of Engineering is proposing five new academic units and has provided a cover letter and revised Bylaws that will take effect when the School splits into the proposed set of academic units. CRE, CAP, CAPRA, GC, and UGC are lead committees on this review.
 - ii. **Action:** GC sends comments to Senate Chair by 5:00 PM on Thursday, April 6, 2017.

IX. Consultation with VPDGE Zatz

- a. Admissions update

- b.** GradSLAM!
- c.** Summer bridge (grant funding and planning)

X. Upcoming Business

XI. Other Business

XII. Executive Session (Voting members only)