

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)
September 29th, 2016
Documents available at: UCM Box “[GC AY 16-17](#)”

Pursuant to call, the Graduate Council met at 10:00 AM on September 29, 2016 in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Ramesh Balasubramaniam presiding.

I. Chair's Report – Ramesh Balasubramaniam

Chair Balasubramaniam welcomed Fabian Philipp to the Graduate Council, and updated GC members on the following topics:

- a. September 22 Division Council meeting:
 - i. A presentation was made by a representative of the 2020 Project, pointing out that the project is on track, and that there would be ongoing traffic disruptions at Bellevue and Lake.
- b. Review items for GC this year:
 - i. There will be three CCGA proposals this year: MIST, EECS, and BEST, which has been revised and now under a different title, “Materials and Biological Engineering” (MBE), ready to be submitted to GC in October.
 - ii. Grad Group Policies & Procedures, submitted last year, were not reviewed due to not meeting template guidelines. In an effort to provide the 15 Grad Groups with feedback, their submitted documents have been uploaded to Box and will be reviewed based on the content provided, with a request that the Grad Groups then resubmit in alignment with the template format. The documents will be reviewed by the GC Policy subcommittee, then reviewed by the full GC committee.
 - iii. The Graduate Advisor’s Handbook will also be reviewed by Chair Balasubramaniam, forwarded to the GC Policy subcommittee, and then forwarded to VPDGE Zatz for final review. It will then be submitted to GC for email vote.
 - iv. CRF deadline is 10/3, and any CRFs received will be quickly reviewed by the CRF subcommittee then added to the consent calendar, to allow the Registrar ample time to list the courses.
- c. Graduate students TAing Graduate courses:
 - i. There are five Grad Groups that have expressed their concerns regarding the [policy as written](#). A member conveyed his observations about this issue and how it would impact the future of teaching one of his courses. VPDGE Zatz expressed the need for being conscious of power differentials, having a clear split between the student that would be TAing and the students taking the course (doctoral student TAing a Masters course). Chair Balasubramaniam noted that a Grad Group expected to not be able to offer a particular course if they could not get TA support. The Grad Group would be modifying the respective CRF so the course would only take students from their specific Grad Group, hurting students from other programs. A member asked about conjoining courses, and the response was that the University is trying to limit conjoined courses as much as possible. Further discussion among the committee showed that there is enough interest to revise this policy, and Chair Balasubramaniam will draft a modified version for Policy subcommittee review.

II. Consent Calendar

- a. The September 8th, 2016 meeting minutes were approved as presented.
- b. The September 29, 2016 meeting agenda was approved as presented.

III. Professional Development Course offered by Graduate Division (GradDiv)

VPDGE Zatz offered a brief history of the proposal for the Professional Development course offered by the Graduate Division. This proposal was discussed heavily last academic year, with that Graduate Council declining the proposal. A member asked about how the proposed course would expand to other instructors, as only the VPDGE and Assistant Dean of Graduate Education teaching. Instructors would come from Senate Faculty appointments. Another question raised regarded scheduling, with this proposal used as an opportunity to improve course scheduling across campus. VPDGE Zatz stated the difficulty in coordination between multiple groups scheduling to avoid overlap. A member asked about how teaching credit is handled: it would be handled pro-bono. The question of credit was further discussed, with the concern that this would set a bad record for faculty who need their time credited when someone else is doing the work for free. VPDGE Zatz noted that GC can raise this question with the Dean's Council. GC agreed that this effort be counted towards work load, and the resource issue be addressed. Vice Chair Ghezzehei asked if GC would only be approving this proposal as a one-off course: yes, with the possibility for others in the future. GC will retain the authority to review this course, creating an ad-hoc subcommittee as appropriate. VPDGE Zatz was asked to provide a memo to GC detailing who will be reviewing the course before it comes to GC, is this course a one-off or will it be setting the precedent for more offerings in the future, and how will faculty be recompensed for their time. The Registrar will be invited to a future GC meeting to talk about this course proposal.

IV. Systemwide Review Items**V. Consultation with VPDGE Zatz**

VPDGE Zatz encouraged GC members to attend the October 17th performance by "Theatre Delta" doing an interactive performance on the mentor-mentee relationship. They will also be doing a performance on faculty hiring and implicit bias. She also announced National Lab Day on October 21st, co-sponsored by GradDiv and the School of Natural Sciences.

VI. Upcoming Business

- a. Chair Balasubramaniam has volunteered to be the GC representative to the WSCUC Steering Committee.

VII. Other Business**VIII. Executive Session (Voting members only)**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:38 AM.

Attest:

Ramesh Balasubramaniam, Chair