Graduate and Research Council (GRC) Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 2, 2013 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

I. Chair's Report – Senate Analyst on behalf of Professor Valerie Leppert

- Introduction of New Senate Director

Vice Chair Mostern welcomed and introduced new Senate Director Dejeune Shelton. Dejeune previously worked as the Executive Director for the Great Valley Center that was previously part of Merced until 2011.

- DivCo (3/20)

DivCo reviewed GRC's recommendation regarding the split of the committee duties and agreed to proceed with revisions to the Bylaws. All faculty will have an opportunity to discuss the changes at the Meeting of the Division.

- Update on Graduate Dean Search

The position was posted and the review of applications will begin in mid-April. Provost/EVC Peterson rejected the idea of extending the search through summer even though the planned schedule has candidates coming to campus in the summer. Chair Leppert addressed GRC's concern regarding the timeline of campus interviews with the search committee chair Dean Meza.

- Faculty Research Awards Call

Provost/EVC Peterson and Budget Director Jefferds have confirmed that 130K is available for faculty grants this year. GRC needs to finalize the application submission deadline and date that recipients will be announced. Chair Leppert proposed two submission deadline options. First deadline option is April 23, 2013, giving faculty three weeks to work on the proposal, the award subcommittee a week to review for rankings, and notification of recipients by April 30, 2013. Option two would extend the deadline to April 30, 2013 allowing faculty an additional week to work on their proposal, provide the award subcommittee two weeks for review, and notification of award recipients by May 14, 2013. GRC discussed the implications of postponing the deadline and agreed that option two would be the best timeframe for review.

Action: GRC will send out Faculty Research Awards call with a submission deadline of April 30, 2013.

- Reminder: Meeting of the Division- April 4 (3:00-5:00pm, KL 232)

Members were reminded that Systemwide Chair Powell and Systemwide Vice Chair Jacobs will be attending the Meeting of the Division scheduled on Thursday April 4, 2013.

II. Consent Calendar

- The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.
- The CRFs listed below were approved as presented.
 - SOC 201
 - SOC 210

Action: Senate Analyst will send approved Sociology CRFs to the Registrar.

III. Modification to the Long-Range Development Plan

The Chancellor and Provost are proposing amendments to the 2009 campus Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) for presentation to and approval by the UC Board of Regents in May. The revisions are the first step for enabling recommendations made by the Urban Lands Institute report to concentrate new construction on a smaller campus footprint, and to consider alternatives to state funding of academic buildings in the form of public-private partnerships. GRC had a preliminary discussion on the proposed amendments and noted that no indication was made of additional parking and the use of the public-private partnership funds to pay for parking garages which cannot be done with state funds.

Action: GRC will continue the discussion on the proposed amendments at the next GRC meeting.

IV. Proposed AY 2013-2014 Funding Model

Graduate Dean Kello has asked GRC to opine on the draft internal funding model for graduate student research and teaching. Graduate Dean Kello provided an overview of the funding model to the committee that proposes to preserve the intentions of the original graduate division support model with one exception: TA support and fellowship support are treated separately. Dean Kello would like to implement a model similar to other UC campuses based on graduate enrollments. Approximately 48.1% of funding for graduate groups and students next year will be in the form of USAP. Moving forward, the percentage of funding that will go to each graduate group needs to be defined and it will require strong communication with students regarding their funding options.

GRC raised concerns regarding long term funding availability, lack of incentives for faculty to support graduate students with grants, and transparency of the funding model.

Action: GRC will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

V. Physics Revised Bylaws and Policies & Procedures

Action: GRC will review revisions made to the Physics Graduate Group documents at the next GRC meeting.

VI. Social Sciences Revised Bylaws

Action: GRC will review revisions made to the Social Sciences Bylaws at the next GRC meeting.

VII. Policy Subcommittee- Chair Sayantani Ghosh

A. 2013-2015 Catalog Edits

GRC was asked to review the graduate studies section of the catalog. GRC discussed the revision made and had no objections. The major revisions were the three graduate group name changes and removal of the faculty membership. Members discussed the need for all graduate groups under the IIGP umbrella to mention their emphasis and agreed to request additional revisions from the relevant graduate groups.

Action: Senate Analyst will send revisions requests to programs under the IIGP with sample language to incorporate.

B. Graduate Group Policies & Procedures

On October 9, GRC was asked to address the issues concerning the overall campus policy on critical examination outcomes. GRC reviewed the subcommittee comments on the proposed language for critical examination outcomes.

A member proposed renaming the outcomes to pass, fail, and partial pass in place of pass, fail, and retake. GRC agreed with the recommendation but had additional concerns on when a partial pass would be applicable. Members discussed how a partial pass could only be applied if an examination has multiple components and each one of the components can be clearly separated, allowing for a retake of the specific failed portion. Discussions continued on the need to make minor changes if the student passed and whether or not there were any consequences for not making minor changes. GRC agreed that allowing thirty days for students to make necessary minor modifications before faculty to sign off on their qualification paperwork would be adequate time.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to change the critical examination outcomes to pass, fail or partial pass.

Action: Senate Analyst will revise the draft memo to Graduate Groups and circulate for committee feedback. Chair Leppert will consolidate comments and send final call for Graduate Group Policies and Procedures to Graduate Groups.

VIII. Executive Session – GRC Voting Members Only

No minutes were recorded for this portion of the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Attest:

Valerie Leppert, Chair

Minutes Prepared by:

Mayra Chavez, Senate Analyst