

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)

Sept 18, 2017

3:45 – 4:30 PM

KL 397

Zoom: <https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/427755260>

Phone: +1-408-638-0968 or +1- 646-876-9923 or +1-669-900-6833 (toll) Meeting ID: 427 755 260

Documents available in [Box](#)
[Graduate Council Duties](#)

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|------|--|---------------|
| I. | Chairs Report – <i>Chair Ghezzehei</i> | 5 Min |
| | A. Academic Governance Cabinet (9/18) | |
| II. | Enrollment Management Committee (9/18) – <i>Maria DePrano</i> | 5 Min |
| III. | Consent Calendar | 5 Min |
| | A. Approval of the Agenda | |
| | B. Minutes of the September 7, 2017 meeting | |
| | C. Physics Policies and Procedures | |
| IV. | BEST Policies and Procedures - <i>Hrant Hratchian</i> | 10 min |
| | Members are asked to discuss the revised Policies and Procedures (P&P) for the Biological Engineering and Small Scale Technologies (BEST) graduate program. At the September 7 GC meeting, several topics were identified for discussion, including the following proposed degree requirements: a special topics course and enrollment in seminar credits for all semesters in residence. | |
| | Action Requested: Determine next steps, including request for revision. | |
| V. | BEST 299: Cells as a Machine – <i>Vice Chair Westerling</i> | 10 Min |
| | Via BEST 299 (Directed Independent Study), the BEST graduate group is offering the course Cells as a Machine, a 3-unit course taught via distance education technologies through the Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems Center/Consortium (http://ebics.net/about). The course began on September 12, 2017. Presently, there are no UC Merced students enrolled in this course. As per Graduate Council’s Course Approval and CRF Process policy, CRFs for courses involving distance education elements require a supplemental questionnaire (bullet 6). Members are asked to discuss this course in relation to policy considerations. | |
| | Actions Requested: Determine next steps. | |
| VI. | Campus Review Item | |
| | A. UC Merced Sustainability Strategic Plan – <i>Andy LiWang</i> | 5 Min |

Members are asked to discuss the draft UC Merced Sustainability Strategic Plan developed by the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability. GC, UGC, and CoR are the lead committees for this review.

Action Requested: The Chair will transmit GC's comments to the Senate Chair by October 2 for consideration at the October 9 DivCo meeting.

VII. Fellowship Funding and Access to Services/Benefits – Vice Chair Westerling 10 Min

Students on fellowship funding are not in the UC payroll system and are not considered employees. As a result, students lose access to services and benefits available to employees (and graduate students funded through GSR and TAs) unless these needs specifically are addressed administratively. These include access to parking, T&E cards, Catbuy, and worker's compensation. This problem is common to many universities. Members will be briefed on the issues and efforts to address them, and identify possible remedies for communication to relevant leadership.

Action Requested: Determine next steps.

VIII. Consultation with VPDGE Zatz 10 Min

- A. Report on fall funding delays in SSHA
- B. Report on plans for increased efficiencies and backups in graduate support across schools
- C. [Graduate recruitment plan](#)
- D. Fall 2017 Enrollments