GRADUATE COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
2013-2014

TO THE MERCED DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

During the academic year 2013-2014, the Graduate Council (GC) met 15 times in person and conducted some business via email with respect to its duties as outlined in UCM Senate Bylaw II.IV.3.B. The issues that GC considered and acted on this year are described as follows:

Administrative Structure
- The Graduate Council operated with three standing subcommittees that met via email throughout the year:
    - Awards Subcommittee reviewed guidelines, applications and provided recommendations on awardees to the Graduate Division.
        - Membership: Sayantani Ghosh (SNS), Sachin Goyal (SOE), and Paul Almeida (SSHA)
    - CRF Subcommittee reviewed all graduate course request forms and provided a recommendation to the council as a whole.
        - Membership: Erin Johnson (SNS), Sachin Goyal (SOE), and Paul Almeida (SSHA)
    - Policy Subcommittee provided the initial review and recommendations on all graduate policies and systemwide policies.
        - Memberships: Kathleen Hull (SSHA) and Valerie Leppert (SOE)

- GC added informal consultants to the membership that included a staff representative from the Office of Graduate Studies and the Coordinator of Institutional Assessment in order to provide an opportunity for administrative consultation.

CCGA Proposals
- **GC Lead Reviewers and Process**
  Given the complexity of the UCM CCGA proposal review process, GC defined the timeline, process and revised the pre-review rubric for CCGA Proposals. Proposals were assigned to individual GC members as lead reviewers, who did not have a conflict of interest.

- **AY 2014-15 CCGA Proposal Submission Deadlines**
  GC finalized the deadline submission dates for new proposing graduate programs that was distributed to emphasis areas under the IIGP that intended to submit a CCGA proposal soon. Faculty lead contacts were asked to respond with the anticipated date in which the CCGA proposal would be submitted to GC for approval.

Draft Graduate Council Committee Manual
- GC created a manual intended to provide members with an overview of responsibilities and procedures that assist every member in carrying out the duties of the Graduate

Council. Members also felt that the procedures and guidelines would improve the institutional memory, efficiency and effectiveness of the Graduate Council.

Graduate Course Request
- **Approved CRFs**
  GC reviewed and approved 44 courses.

- **Joint Online CRF System**
  Last year, it was agreed that the graduate CRF approval system would be integrated with the Undergraduate CRF Management System. Funding was made available by Acting Dean Kello and Provost/EVC Peterson for the CRF on-line system. On behalf of the Graduate Division, the Senate Office hired two undergraduate students to enter missing undergraduate CRFs and 330 graduate CRFS into the system. The time frame for implementation of the new joint CRF system was reevaluated and its completion date is expected to be before fall 2014.

Graduate Group Bylaws
- Graduate Council drafted the Bylaws policy and template based on Graduate Group Chair comments requesting examples of approved templates for new and proposed modifications to exiting graduate group bylaws. The approved policy and template were based on the UC Davis Graduate Program Bylaws Template.

Graduate Group Policies and Procedures
- **Annual Review:** In order to ensure continuing compliance with campus and systemwide policies and streamline the review process, GC identified reviewer assignments and created an internal review criteria worksheet. Members agreed to require all graduate groups to include a cover page that included the graduate group name; degree type the policies pertain to, list the date of previous approved revisions, current revision date, and last date approved by the Graduate Council.   The Council also suggested that groups may wish to provide a description of how students are typically supported by the program without including specific dollar amounts.
- **Template and Guidelines:** Review of graduate group policies and procedures has been conducted without a policy that governs what components and information should be included in these documents. UC Davis developed a template for graduate groups that guides the formatting, content and streamlines the review for the Graduate Council. Members discussed if a similar template should be adapted for the campus. Graduate Council agreed that a template would be helpful for new graduate groups. However, all graduate groups would be able to use the template, but final implementation decision should be left to the graduate groups.

Graduate Group Websites
- WASC granted UC Merced the opportunity to submit a Fast Track Authorization Proposal that would expedite the review process for new stand-alone PhD programs

originating from existing programs under the IIGP. With the Fast Track Review of new doctoral and master's degree emerging from existing emphases within the Interim Individualized Graduate Program (IIGP), once approval is received from CCGA and UCOP, WASC should be able to provide a decision within 30 days. In the development of the Fast Track Authorization Proposal, GC asked graduate group chairs to: review their faculty membership and distinguish between "core" and "affiliate" faculty, and update their graduate group websites to reflect their updated list of membership.

Graduate Professional Advancement Initiative
- GC was asked to review and provide comments on proposed plans for the Graduate Professional Advancement Initiative (PAI) for UC Merced graduate students, launched in fall 2013. GC recommended planning initiatives for incoming graduate students, getting the graduate group chairs involved to leverage existing graduate group initiatives, making sure initiatives are aligned with the set of professional learning outcomes that are being developed by the Assessment Office, and incorporating Alumni into the PAI initiatives.

Graduate Program Review

- **Graduate Program Review Policy**
    - **November 7, 2013 Version:** In May 2013, GC was asked to revise the Graduate Program Review Policy to allow the establishment of a Joint Undergraduate-Graduate Program Review Committee. As a result GC made several edits to: clarify that all emphasis areas under the Interim-Individualized Graduate Program (IIGP) and stand-alone programs are subject to Program Review, added a clause for Conflict of Interest in the CoC appointment of members to PRC, continued with references to Masters not MA (as it fails to represents MS degrees), defined differences between graduate advisor and major professor throughout the document, replaced the School Dean with Lead Dean for graduate programs, and change scientific to scholarly to cover all fieldwork and publications on-campus. The "working draft" was shared with UGC Chair Sharping and Joint PRC Chair Camfield with a request to schedule a meeting to identify steps for reviewing the undergraduate and graduate program review policies. On October 28, the revised Graduate Program Review Policy was circulated as an email consent item. Comments were received from GC members, Joint Program Review Committee Chair Gregg Camfield, and Senate Office Program Review Manager Fatima Paul. Chair Leppert consolidated all recommendations and made final revisions to the document. All revisions were minor and mainly typographical edits. GC approved the final revision to the Graduate Program Review Policy on November 7. 2013.
    - **May 2014 Version:** Throughout the academic year there was internal discussion on revising the SACAP charge and membership so that it replaces the Program Review Committee in organizing program reviews. The proposed revisions to the SACAP charge would allow this Senate-Administrative Committee to make

policy revision suggestions to UGC and GC. GC was supportive of the proposed changes - revision of SACAP to a PROC with joint senate-administrative oversight of academic peer-based program review, along with its existing SACAP responsibilities; and revision of GC and UGC program review policies to reflect this. While members recognized the merits of a comprehensive PROC policy for review of both undergraduate and graduate programs, they were concerned with the time left to draft a new unified policy for UGC/GC review and approval, and DivCo's endorsement this academic year. As a result, PRC Chair Camfield, UGC Chair Sharping and GC Chair Leppert met to discuss the proposed revisions to the Program Review Policies. In the revised GC policy, the reviews would be conducted by PROC (SACAP), preparation phase would be longer, and the program review schedule would be modified. PROC will take on coordinating academic program reviews to make sure the administrative component would be integrated and clarify that new proposals count for program review. Members suggested adding Provost/EVC to the membership of PROC to elevate the importance of the committee.

- **Joint Program Review Committee Charge**
GC reviewed the draft Program Review Committee Charge and questions were raised regarding the use consultants versus ex-officio members on the committee.

- **Revised Graduate Program Review Cycle**
Political Science, Applied Mathematics, Interdisciplinary Humanities, and Physics were approved as a stand-alone graduate program by CCGA. GC revised the Graduate Program Review Cycle to reflect the programs' new review cycle.

- **Social Sciences Program Review**
Four programs were scheduled to undergo program review in AY 2013-2014 and all except Social Sciences submitted a CCGA proposal. Graduate Council chose to undertake an abbreviated form of Program Review for the Social Sciences IIGP Emphasis. The review excluded Sociology, and asked Economics and Public Health to report on their current status and future plans as tracks under the Social Sciences IIGP Emphasis, and to provide details regarding plans for submission of a CCGA proposal for stand-alone graduate program status. GC obtained verbal information concerning the history and future of the Economics Track from Professor Kurt Schnier and information on the Public Health Track from Professor Paul Brown.

Graduate Student and Program Funding
- **Graduate Student Summer Funding**
GC asked for an update on the proposed funding plans for the academic year. Graduate Dean Kello indicated that funding levels for graduate student summer funding would be similar to last year. All funds were allocated directly to graduate groups and no call for summer funding would be disseminated. Members raised their concern regarding

the lack of information conveyed to students and Graduate Dean Kello scheduled a meeting with the Graduate Group Chairs to request that information for funding be communicated to their graduate students.

- **2014-2015 Graduate Group & Student Funding**
Graduate Dean Kello announced that the same funding model (from AY 2013-2014) would be used to determine the AY2014-2015 funding levels for graduate groups and students.

Graduate Student Mentoring Guidelines and Best Practices
- The Graduate Program Review Policy requires Graduate Groups to provide mentoring guidelines in order to address the programmatic climate of the graduate program and no mentoring policy/guidelines exist for UC Merced. GC drafted a set of minimum requirements, along with some best practice recommendations for graduate student mentoring. GC requested feedback from GSA, Graduate Group Chairs, Graduate Group Coordinators, Graduate Division, Ombudsman, and Campus legal before final GC approval. The mentoring guidelines and best practices document were revised to incorporate the comments received.

Graduate Student Oral Examination List
- GC reviewed the Interim Librarian's notification of the Library's intention to expand the university's print collection through graduate student oral examinations lists (or equivalent) in the Social Sciences and Humanities. In general members were supportive of this initiative. GC noted their appreciation of the efforts of the Library in working to improve the print collection and looks forward to the development of a comprehensive plan (and associated allocation of resources) to expand the print collection across all disciplines on campus.

Requests from the Graduate Division
- **First Year Fellowship**
  - **Guidelines:** GC reviewed the draft 2014-2015 First Year Fellowship Guidelines and provided an annotated copy of the guidelines with in-line comments and recommendations. GC requested that the Graduate Division send documents to GC for review that includes all track-changes to expedite the review and that the calls clearly state the number of fellowships that will be awarded. Graduate Division was also asked to develop an application for the Chancellor Fellowship similar to that of the Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship and define what diversity means for the Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship. GC also recommended requesting specific information from graduate groups regarding which GRE score should be weighted more and asking graduate groups to use broad metrics for diversity.
  - **Review and Rankings:** A total of 22 applications were received for the Chancellors Fellowship and 21 for the Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship. GC was asked by the Graduate Division to provide a rank list of nominees for the Chancellor Graduate Fellowship and Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship.

- **Catalog: Graduate Studies Section**
GC voted unanimously in favor of the revisions to the 2014-2015 UCM Catalog Graduate Studies Section. Members noted that the master's degree differentiation and formatting of master/doctoral degree information should be considered for next year's call for revisions.

- **Continuing Student Fellowship**
  - **Guidelines:** GC was asked by the Graduate Division to provide feedback on draft 2014-2015 Continuing Student Fellowship Guidelines that included a new fellowship titled the Graduate Dean Dissertation Year Fellowship.
  - **Review and Rankings:** A total of 44 applications were received for the continuing student fellowships. GC provided complete rankings for the Miguel Velez Fellowship, Presidential Dissertation Year Fellowship, Fletcher Jones Fellowship,, Faculty Mentorship Program and Graduate Dean Dissertation Fellowship,.

- **Graduate Advisors Handbook**
  - **Coordinating Revisions:** GC established and implemented a process for the review of the Graduate Advisors Handbook to ensure collaboration and coordination between the GC and Graduate Division In the proposed process, Graduate Council would "own" the Graduate Advisors Handbook throughout the academic year and the Graduate Division would "own" the document during the summer.
  - **Name Change:** Acting Graduate Dean Kello proposed changing the name of the Graduate Advisors Handbook to better reflect the use of the document. Graduate Council was in favor of changing the name and unanimously voted to change the document title to the Graduate Policies and Procedures.

- **Graduate Division Periodic Review**
  - **Self-Study Report:** GC's comments on the self-study report were solicited by Acting Dean Kello. Members discussed and had three major concerns with the self-study report. Members felt that the report needed to articulate a better strategy for growing the number of MS/MA students, should examine the roles of the graduate division and the schools in administration and financial support of graduate programs.
  - **Meeting with the Graduate Division External Review Team:** Graduate Division underwent periodic review on October 10-11, and in preparation for meeting with the review team, GC discussed the concerns that would be addressed with the review team. Members agreed to discuss the role of the Graduate Division and the Schools in graduate education, student recruitment in STEM fields and international students, gender diversity in graduate programs, graduate student mentoring needs, NRT waiver post-candidacy, need to streamline the process for properly charging training grants and fellowships, and improved processing of visas for international students.

- **Outstanding Teaching Award**
  GC reviewed the revised 2013-2014 Outstanding Teaching Award (OTA) call and proposed timeline. The Awards Subcommittee were asked to evaluate the 23 nominees from 1 to 3, 3 being the highest ranked nominee. The Awards Subcommittee considered each nominees contribution to teaching and pedagogy by reviewing the teaching statement and letter(s) of recommendation. The individual rankings were compiled and the average rankings were used. The subcommittee rankings were discussed and approved by GC.

- **Policy for Publishing Dissertations**
  Acting Graduate Dean Kello asked GC to opine on the policies for publishing and withholding dissertations with the implementation of Open Access. The request originated from concerns raised by SSHA graduate students regarding the effects of publishing their dissertation as some publishers may be unwilling to publish some version of it as a book. GC was in favor of drafting and implementing a policy similar to UC Berkeley. Acting Graduate Dean Kello consulted with the Graduate Group Chairs and no recommendations were made against adopting a policy similar to UC Berkeley's. GC reviewed UC Berkeley's Policy for Thesis/Dissertation Embargoes and agreed to adopt the proposal.

Requests from Graduate Emphasis Areas/Groups
- **Changes to Graduate Group Policies and Procedures**
  Graduate Groups were unclear whether every change made to the graduate policies and procedures should be approved by the Graduate Council. A memo was sent to Graduate Groups notifying them that all changes to Graduate Policies and Procedures should be sent to Graduate Council as a notification for review. Specifically, any changes to a graduate program's degree requirements require the approval of the Council to ensure they are consistent with campus and systemwide policies. GC noted that corrections to typos or grammatical changes did not require review.

- **Environmental Systems (ES) Graduate Degree Requirements**
  ES faculty submitted minor changes to their graduate degree requirements for the PhD and MS program. The submitted document contained some problems with the coursework requirement for the MS Plan I, the scholarship graduate group exception for ES of "C" being accepted in partial satisfaction of degree requirements, and outcome of critical exams. GC requested changes and a second version of the degree requirements were approved.

- **Graduate Minors and Emphasis**
  - **Graduate Minor Areas:** Graduate Council received a request from the Psychological Sciences Graduate Group on the possibility of establishing a graduate minor. The graduate group was informed that typically UC campuses establish informal concentrations, or designated emphases and/or certificates. GC requested

information from ALO Martin asking if establishing certificates or designated emphasis on campus would trigger a Substantive Change Review or if there would be any WASC implications associated with creating these non-degree graduate programs. ALO Martin conveyed that she does not expect much impact and at most WASC would need to be notified of the establishment of non-degree graduate programs. Chair Leppert also informally consulted with CCGA regarding the practice of graduate "minors" and the feedback received indicated that graduate "minors" are not the norm nor are they formally annotated on transcripts. The Psychological Sciences Graduate Group based their request on the [UCLA Graduate Program in Psychology Handbook](#) and the UCLA GC Analyst confirmed that the graduate "minor" is informal and only reviewed internally. In general, members had no objections with the Psychological Sciences developing a graduate "minor"; however GC would need to develop a policy to ensure clarity, uniformity, establish a mechanism for programmatic review, and consultation process with the administration to ensure appropriate resource allocation. GC in consultation with the Graduate Dean, Registrar and ALO agreed to work on how best to distinguish tracks, emphasis, concentrations, and minor areas on transcripts in the next academic year.

- **Graduate Emphasis:** GC received a request from Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Group for three emphases to be created and appear (in addition to the degree name) in graduate student transcripts. Members briefly discussed how best to distinguish tracks, emphasis, concentrations, and minor areas, and the need to maintain the integrity of the degree program in doing so. Members agreed that it would be a rollover item next year.

- **Graduate Student Appointment as TAs for Graduate Courses**
  GC received a request to clarify if a graduate student can be appointed as a TA for a graduate-level statistics or methods course. APM 410- Appointment and Promotion of Student Teachers governs the appointment of TAs and sets no restrictions that TAs can only be assigned for an undergraduate course. Members reviewed the relevant appointment policies of UCB, UCLA, UCD and USCS and had no objections for graduate students to be appointed as TAs for graduate courses. GC agreed to draft a general policy that would require a graduate student TA for a graduate course to be in good standing, advanced to candidacy, and to have taken and passed the course for which the TA appointment would be made with a grade of B or better, and to not be currently enrolled in the course during their appointment. The suggestion was made for the approval process to require the Graduate Group Chair, Lead Dean and Graduate Dean to approve future graduate student appointments. In addition, the Graduate Dean would be delegated authority by Graduate Council to approve any exceptions to policy.

- **Request for the approval of Graduate Instruction**
  GC reviewed two requests from the Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Group to allow two post-doctoral scholars to teach graduate courses once in the fall 2014 term.

The request was approved based on the high level of scholarship, and teaching experience of the post-docs proposed. However, GC expressed concern about the use of post-docs for graduate instruction across all graduate programs, and reaffirmed its role in review and approval of such requests.

Request to Renew the Interim Individual Graduate Program (IIGP)
- Given the support that the IIGP has provided in successfully growing the graduate programs at UC Merced, GC requested an extension of the IIGP for AY 2014-2015. CCGA granted the extension on May 7, 2014 along with a request for a brief account of current emphases still under the IIGP umbrella and their expected timetable for transition to a regular status. CCGA also indicated their expectation that no new emphases be created within the IIGP.

Review Requests from DivCo

- **Campus Ethnic and Gender Diversity Issues**
  Provost/EVC Peterson asked the Senate to consider opportunities to advance campus diversity. GC recommended providing funding opportunities, based on merit, for faculty and graduate students that enhance the research diversity on campus, and requested the School Deans to strengthen the oversight process within their school for ensuring adherence to best practices for recruitment and advertising. Members also recommended obtaining data to find out if diversity of the faculty is a retention issue for faculty and graduate students.

- **Conflict of Interest Policy**
  Last year, CRE and DivCo decided to "test run" the UC Riverside model of having each standing committee compose a Conflict of Interests (COI) statement (or equivalent) at the start of each academic year. GC reviewed the request and identified the review of CCGA Proposals as the main GC business where a COI may arise. Members agreed that in order to avoid a COI, Graduate Council members will recuse themselves from the discussion and voting if they are a member of the proposing graduate group. The 2013-2014 GC Conflict of Interest Policy was approved on September 26, 2014.

- **COR Review Process for Research Units:** GC reviewed and strongly supported the proposed COR Review Process for Research Units.

- **FWDAF Diversity Hires Memo**
  In response to DivCo's request, GC reviewed the memo from the FWDAF committee regarding diversity hires. Graduate Council was generally supportive of diversity being achieved in hiring faculty of distinguished scholarship, but with respect to this particular proposal members were concerned that this plan might indirectly favor particular fields of study and/or programs that engage more heavily in diversity scholarship. Members also asked: how would the administration and faculty advertise

these searches? How will hires be prioritized? How will excellence be determined across fields? GC recommended obtaining empirical data to define the metrics for diversity at UC Merced by school and discipline, and the specific diversity categories within them that need special attention.

- **Joint Medical Education Task Force Charge**
  GC reviewed and was supportive of the proposed Joint Medical Education Task Force charge and membership. GC recommended clarifying that consultation should be conducted through formal senate consultation processes and that HSRI faculty School representatives be limited to one per school, in order to avoid the appearance of a Conflict of Interest.

- **Joint Senate-Administration Library Working Group Final Report:** GC reviewed the final report submitted by the Joint Senate-Administration Library Working Group. Members were very supportive of the report's recommendations to grow the library budget and establish a library advisory group. GC recommend that priority be given to training library staff to provide increased support for graduate students and that the library provide clear delegation of responsibilities for all departments involved in the publication of dissertations.

- **Library's 2020 Space Plan**
  GC had strong objections to the proposed 2020 Space Plan that did not seem to prioritize an alignment with the academic research and teaching mission of the university. Member's major concerns were that the space plan did not address the shortcomings in regards to the library's traditional roles in growing and maintaining print collections, and a print reserves section. GC also noted that the Library's role is not providing common space or special event space for the campus, that management of it by the library may detract from their academic mission.

- **Proposed Course Buyout Policy**
  Provost/EVC Peterson asked the Senate to opine on the proposed draft Course Buyout Policy developed in conjunction with the School Deans in May 2012. GC reviewed the proposed policy and recommend adding language that would make the timeline for approval more specific and/or establish a notification process for program chairs. Members also felt that the cost of the buyout should be reduced, that the teaching requirement should be left to the schools and programs to define, and funds obtained through a course buyout should be allocated to the programs, instead of the Dean, to pay for teaching needs.

- **Proposed revisions to the MAPP**
  GC reviewed the latest proposed revisions to the MAPP and provided comments regarding: 1) the Section on Academic Student Employees, and 2) the need to consider adding sections governing Graduate Group Chair appointments.

- **Revised Draft Course Buyout Policy 1.0**
  GC reviewed the draft Course Buyout Policy 1.0 submitted by Provost/EVC Peterson and remained concern with timeline for approval and cost of the buyout. GC also recommended adding language that would make the timeline for approval more specific and/or establish a notification process for program chairs.

- **Revised SACAP Charge**
  GC reviewed the proposed revisions to the Senate-Administration Council on Assessment and Planning (SACAP) charge. In general, members had no objections to the proposed revisions to the charge and membership. However, GC noted the need for the Senate to advocate for the integration of Program Review and School Assessment efforts.

- **SSHA Community Research and Service Undergraduate Minor**
  GC reviewed the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts proposed minor in Community Research and Service.   Members felt that the proposed program cleverly leveraged existing programs and courses in SSHA and SOE to create a distinctive cross-campus minor that can become a signature program at UC Merced. GC also agreed with the plan to initially limit enrollment, proposed fundraising plans, and the goal of monitoring of the resource impact of the program.

- **UCAF Memo- Academic Freedom and Faculty Control of the Curriculum**
  GC discussed via email and was extremely concerned with the April 29, 2014 UCAF memo expressing concern about possible curtailment of academic freedom at UC Merced due to assessment practices, particularly given that this issue has not been raised at UC Merced with Graduate Council, or discussed in any depth within Divisional Council. With regard to UCAF's concern over Graduate Council's CRF policy, that requires Course Learning Outcomes that articulate with Program Learning Outcomes to be listed in every syllabus, GC noted that this arises from WASC substantive change requirements, which other UCs are not under for their MS/MA, or PhD degrees. While undergraduate programs at UC Merced are no longer under substantive change requirements, graduate programs will likely be under them until about 2020 (when 10 WASC-approved graduate programs will have been in place for 10 years). Finally, with regard to "learning outcomes" preventing faculty from approaching their subject in the classroom in unconventional or novel ways, GC noted that "learning outcomes" have been defined by faculty, and at the graduate level, they are written with so much breadth that is difficult to envision them restraining the subject content or mode of delivery for any course.

- **UCM Smoke and Tobacco Free Policy**
  In general, GC had no objections to the proposed policy that would go into effect January 1, 2014. Members commented on the need to make sure all campus constituents

are kept informed of the on-campus cessation resources that will be made available as a direct result of the implementation of this policy.

- **Undergraduate Major in Public Health**
GC had two primary concerns about the impact on graduate education of starting a new undergraduate Public Health major. As a result, GC recommended requesting more information on the resource needs (to ensure a high academic quality program) and a teaching rotation for all undergraduate and anticipated graduate courses (to demonstrate that both can be delivered with current resources).

- **Undergraduate Council Reorganization**
GC provided comments from the perspective of the current committee's workload following the split last year of the Graduate Research Council into Graduate Council and the Committee on Research.

- **WASC Five Core Competency Expectation**
WASC's redesigned the reaccreditation process and among several new accreditation expectations is that institutions must ensure the development of "five core competencies" in all baccalaureate programs. GC reviewed the proposed plan and had no concerns or comments.

Review Requests from Senate Committees
- **Library's External Review Report**
In response to the Senate-Administration Library Working Group's request, GC reviewed the Library's external review report and the working group's five guiding questions. Members were concerned that the review did not address the question if the tasks the Library undertakes are prioritized in a way that aligns with the academic research and teaching mission of the university. GC also noted that it would be a very good idea to consider having a library impact statement prepared when new academic programs (and courses) are being considered and given the current space constraints at UC Merced, which are only anticipated to get worse, it is important that campus, in particular senate, consultation be sought in planning the use of space in the library. GC was also very concerned with the "institutional effectiveness" and the "educational role" section of the report that seems to largely focus on undergraduate students, perhaps to the detriment of graduate students and faculty.

- **Proposed Changes to the Academic Integrity Task Force**
GC was asked to review the proposed changes to the charge and membership of the Academic Integrity Task Force, and agreed with the goal of revising the proposed policy to better contextualize student interest that encourage academic integrity. In the spirit of reinforcing the charge of the Task Force, members recommended creating campus guidelines for Graduate Student Teaching Assistants and guidelines for conducting final examinations. GC also noted that changes to the academic honesty policy that fall under

Standing Order of the Regents 105.2 should be approved by the Academic Senate and incorporated into UC Merced Senate Regulations and that UC Merced Senate Regulations *do not presently* address components of the current academic honesty policy that fall under SOR 105.2 (e.g. grading options when academic dishonesty has been determined to have occurred either through admission or adjudication).

- **Seminar Courses**
  GC received a notification via email that Undergraduate Council would be discussing seminar enrollment sizes. GC found that at the systemwide level there are no guidelines or restrictions for graduate seminar enrollment. Members felt that faculty should be able to determine when the enrollment size might have possible implications on the level of quality of graduate courses and that faculty would benefit from general course definitions.

Senate Awards
- An ad-hoc subcommittee reviewed and selected a nominee for the Senate Distinguished Graduate Teaching/Mentorship Award.

Systemwide Business

- **Systemwide Items Reviewed by GC**
  - **2010 CITRIS Academic Review:** Graduate Council reviewed the documents related to the Systemwide 2010 CITRIS Academic Review and had no objections or comments.
  - **APM 025, APM 670, and proposed new APM 671:** GC reviewed and had no objections to the documents related to the proposed revisions of APM 025- Conflict of Commitment and Outside Activities of Faculty, APM 670- Health Sciences Compensation Plan, and proposed new APM 671- Conflict of Commitment and Outside Professional Activities of Health Sciences Compensation Plan Participants.
  - **APM 035, Appendices A-1 and A-2:** GC reviewed the documents related to the proposed revisions of APM 035- Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination in Employment, Appendices A-1 and A-2. Members noted the need to incorporate changes mandated by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) into current training for faculty and staff, and to develop new training for students.
  - **APM 190 and Appendix A-2:** GC reviewed and had no objections to the proposed revisions to APM 190- UC Policy on the Protection of Whistleblowers from Retaliation and Appendix A-2 Procedures for Reviewing Retaliation Complaints.
  - **APM 290, APM 510 and APM 600 Series**: Graduate Council reviewed the documents related to the final review of APM 290- Regents' Professors and Regents' Lecturers, APM 510- Intercampus Transfers, and APM 600 Series- Salary Administration. Members had no objections to the proposed revisions.
  - **CCGA Guidance for Master's Degree Titles:** GC reviewed the draft CCGA Guidance for Masters Degrees that explains the current issues concerning Masters'

titles for SSP or PDST programs in the UC System. Members agreed with the proposal to establish and provide guidelines for master's degree titles.

- **Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI) Online Cross-Campus Course Pilot Project:** Graduate Council found this effort to be mainly relevant to undergraduate education; however, GC noted that there are some existing efforts of cross-campus graduate course sharing, and that they would like to see an effort extended to formalize these relationships, develop clear policies and support infrastructure around them, as well. Members were also concerned with how the online cross-campus courses count for faculty teaching load, and TA/Instructional/IT support for students at the non-host campus.
- **Moreno Report:** GC was asked to opine on the Moreno Report and any Senate procedures that can illustrate whether the current anti-discrimination policies and process are effective.
- **Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition Policy (PDST):** GC was concerned with the academic and financial arguments for what type of programs fall under the PDST vs. SSGPDP policy. Members also felt that articulation of how a PDST program may convert to SSGPDP would be helpful and consultation of the Academic Senate should be sought when existing state-supported programs consider conversion to PDST status.
- **Proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 55:** GC reviewed the documents related to the two alternative versions of proposed amendments to Senate Bylaw 55- Departmental Voting Rights. Members supported the more restrictive amendments to both versions and expressed hesitancy over extending voting rights to non-senate faculty, given the different performance expectations and cultures that may exist for such faculty vs. senate faculty; and lack of clarity concerning the specific titles to which this privilege would be extended and the resulting impact at both the campus and systemwide levels.
- **Proposed revisions to the Compendium:** GC reviewed and had no objections to the proposed revisions to the Compendium: University Review Process for Academic Programs, Academic Units, and Research Units.
- **Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDP) Policy:**
  - **Round #1:** GC reviewed the proposed revised policy that included implementation information and removed barriers for forming self-supporting programs that allow the University to serve more students and expand revenue generation. Members were concerned with the ambiguity about what may be considered a "professional master's program," accessibility of programs for state residents, and the need to establish a tracking mechanism to demonstrate that self-supporting program are not having a deleterious effect on the state-supported mission of the UC system.
  - **Round #2:** GC reiterated the importance of tracking the academic and financial implications of these programs on the institution, particularly given the large number of them under consideration across the system as evidenced in the recently collected 5 year planning perspectives.

- **UC Policy on Supplement to Military Pay Four-Year Renewal-** GC had no objections to the proposed extension and revisions to the University of California Policy on Supplement to Military Pay.

- **Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA)**
  GC Chair Valerie Leppert reports on CCGA activities included the following:
  - Revisions to APM 035, Appendices A-1 and A-2
  - Draft Policy on Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)
  - Proposed revisions to the CCGA Handbook
  - Proposed revision to the Compendium
  - Review of the Physics CCGA Proposal
  - Review of the Applied Mathematics CCGA Proposal
  - Review of the Interdisciplinary Humanities CCGA Proposal
  - Review of the Sociology CCGA Proposal
  - Proposed revisions to the Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDP) Policy
  - Draft formal letter, summary and format that will be an essential guide for President Napolitano in approving graduate programs
  - UC Conference on Doctoral Student Support

UCM Senate Regulations
- The campus received WASC Interim Approval for Fast Track Review of new Doctoral degrees emerging from existing emphases within the Interim Individualized Graduate Program (IIGP). WASC made one single recommendation to the campus: formalize graduate policies by including them in our Senate Regulations. In response to WASC's request, GC proposed changes to Division Regulations that codify Graduate Council approved policies for graduate education. On April 2, 2014, GC unanimously endorsed the proposed revisions and a track changes copy with recommendations was sent to the Committee on Rules and Elections for their consideration. GC also proposed significant formatting changes and proposed changes to approved language of the Division Regulations.

White Paper on Graduate Student Enrollment
- The 2020 plan outlines a tripling of graduate student enrollment in the next six years. Faculty and graduate groups, who must ultimately admit graduate students, perceive several barriers to achieving this goal. As a result, GC developed the white paper that seeks to outline those barriers and possible solutions to overcoming them.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Leppert, Chair and CCGA Representative (SOE)
Kathleen Hull, Vice Chair (SSHA)
Erin Johnson (SNS)
Sayantani Ghosh (SNS)

Sachin Goyal (SOE)
Paul Almeida (SSHA)

Ex-Officio
Ignacio López-Calvo, Divisional Council Chair (SSHA)
Jian-Qiao Sun, Division Council Vice Chair (SOE)
Chris Kello, Acting Dean of the Graduate Division (SSHA)

Student Representative
Henry Pai (SOE)

Consultants
Laura Martin, Coordinator of Institutional Assessment
Tsu Ya, Graduate Admissions and Academic Services Manager

Senate Staff
Mayra Chavez-Franco, Senate Analyst