

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)

Monday, November 9, 2020

1:30 – 3:00 PMZoom URL: <https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/2092009728>

Zoom Phone: 1 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 209 200 9728

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

The meeting was called to order at 1:30PM, Chair Hratchian presiding, and entered Executive Session at 1:31PM.**I. Executive Session (1:30-2:10)**

- A. [Gallo School Proposal](#)—Lead Reviewers: Sandie Ha and Boaz Ilan
- B. [MDSA Proposal](#)—Lead Reviewer: YangQuan Chen (the review is [here](#))

ACTION: Members will contact the Chair to request an executive session to discuss the proposals further. If no request is made, members will vote by email on the draft memos on the proposals, to be circulated by Friday, 11/13/20.

II. Chair's Report (2:10-2:25) ---Chair Hratchian

- A. Enrollment Management and TA Allocation--Department and Graduate Group Chairs received the updated model, which drastically reduces the number of students to be admitted, about two weeks ago. GC Chair met with School Executive Committee chairs, who expressed concerns, especially given the timing. GC Chair plans informal consultation with graduate group chairs, and drafting a FAQ document.

ACTION: Members will prepare for APAPB Schnier's presentation on the academic planning and budgeting model on 11/23.

- B. Authorship Guidelines and Board Policy proposed by AVPF and Interim VCR—DivCo was presented with the proposal, coupled with another on data sharing, without proper committee consultations in advance (per CoR and FWAF Chairs). DivCo has expressed similar concerns (about lack of shared governance) numerous times, with various parts of the administration. This is new this fall. DivCo directed CoR, FWAF and GC Chairs to meet, and they drafted a memo for DivCo consideration at the upcoming DivCo meeting. The memo suggests that there needs to be more involvement at the local levels (graduate groups and departments) in conflict resolution, giving the chairs the leadership tools and supports. Chair will provide further update at the next GC meeting.

- C. CCGA—discussion topics included distinction between dual and joint degree programs, with the concern being that programs are being proposed as dual even though substantively they are joint degree programs (i.e., the amount of work does not justify two degrees), as a way to start international programs without having to have both programs be accredited (as required for joint degree programs); new regulations on international student visas that may not allow extension beyond 4 years (although this may not be an issue past January with a new administration); graduate student concerns about busing and childcare services, which UCM GSA president also shared with GC Chair.

- D. Teacher Prep Program (TPP)/Curriculum Advisory Board (CAB)—with the move of the Extension from Student Affairs to Academic Affairs, some issues that were raised last year have resolved themselves. Chair held an informal consultation with the Director of Extension, who confirmed that Extension has no concerns about the upcoming CTC audit of the TPP. The TPP workgroup (whose membership will be redefined but will still include members from faculty and administration) will be more long-term (3-5, 10 years) vision oriented. Administration is supportive of this proposal.

III. Consent Calendar (2:25-2:25)

- A. The agenda (11/9)

- B. [Minutes from the 10/26 meeting](#)
- C. [Proposed Revision](#) to Senate Regulation (for ANR researchers to chair committees)
- D. [IOR petitions](#) (all students have advanced to candidacy and are making good progress)

The consent calendar was approved as presented.

IV. Systemwide Review Item: none (2:25-2:25)

V. Campus Review Items (2:25-2:45)—Member Depaoli

Review of [GC Bylaws](#)—Member Depaoli presented [her review](#) which incorporated some feedback from GC members, in the areas of membership/participation of graduate students and possibly post-docs, as well as different disciplines/schools; transparency in decision-making on student awards; and inclusion of academic integrity (such that the institution would free from discrimination, harassment and bullying) in consideration of graduate education policies and issues. A member recommended adding anti-racism language as a preamble to the bylaws, and referring to it throughout, and adding a commitment to anti-bias training. The GSA representative demonstrated their support for broader participation of graduate students, such as one from each school.

ACTION: Members to review the suggested revisions before the next (11/23) GC meeting

VI. Consultation with VPDGE (2:45-3:00)—Interim VPDGE Kello

- A. The Role of the Academic Counselor—6 of 10 UC campuses have academic counselors. Graduate Division is in the process of further clarifying the academic counselor's role, and the Interim VPDGE asked how GC would like to be involved. GC Chair would like to wait for the workgroup to produce a recommendation before involving GC.
- B. MS-to-PhD pipeline with credit articulation—the Chancellor and Provost are interested in developing stronger links to CSUs and community colleges in general, and diversity pipelines in particular. There is ongoing effort to recruit CSU Bakersfield Master's students to UCM PhD programs, and as a part of this recruitment it has been suggested that UCM allow Master's units credits from CSU to count for UCM PhD degree (which is what "articulation" means). There are existing programs of co-mentorship but without articulation. UCM regulations specifies that units earned at other institutions do not count for PhD degree requirements in units, but course requirements can be waived by graduate programs. GC Chair asked how often waivers are being granted, and Interim VPDGE responded he would research this. GC Chair thinks the articulation could be a useful recruitment tool that builds upon established rules and practices (course requirement waivers).

VII. New Business?

VIII. Informational Items

[Comparative analysis of the use of S/U grade option](#), Spring 2020 and Spring 2019