

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)**Tuesday, April 14, 2020****1:30 – 3:00 PM**Zoom 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](#)**

- I. Consultation with VPDGE** **10 Min**
- A. Graduate Admissions and Enrollment for AY 20-21: other UC campuses' policies on [remote matriculation](#), [deferred matriculation](#), and [admissions evaluations](#) are provided for reference.
 - B. COVID-19 related updates (program changes/cancellations, enrollment projections, annual review of graduate student form)
 - C. Graduate Division Leadership Transition
- II. Discussion Item: Engagement of CE specialists in Graduate Education** **25 Min**
- GC discusses engagement of Cooperative Extension (CE) Specialists (funded through UC Agriculture and Natural Resources, or ANR) in graduate education, with guests Vice Chancellor of Research Sam Traina and Professors Tom Peterson and Martha Conklin. A table of [current and potential manners of engagement](#) is provided to aid the discussion. Information about UCB and UCD's solutions is [here](#).
- Action Requested:** Discuss ways to enable CE Specialists to more actively engage in graduate education at UCM
- III. Chair's Report---Chair Westerling** **10 Min**
- Chair updates GC on DivCo and CCGA, as well as discuss the proposed [Emergency Educational Continuity Policy](#).
- IV. Discussion Item: [Graduate P&P Handbook Revision](#) --Jesus Cisneros, Chris Kello** **15 Min**
- GC and Graduate Division will complete the discussion on items leftover from the Spring 2019 review of the Handbook, and identify areas for further revision/addition (Academic Freedom, Advising and Mentoring, Grievance, Student Evaluation and Evaluation Form).
- Action Requested:** Approve the revised Handbook for AY 2020-21.
- V. Vice Chair's Report --Vice Chair Hratchian** **10 Min**
- Vice Chair updates GC on the UC Merced's Cyberinfrastructure.
- VI. [PROC](#) Report --PROC liaison Maria DePrano** **5 Min**
- VII. Consent Calendar** **5 Min**
- A. The agenda (4/14)
 - B. [Minutes from the 3/31 meeting](#)
 - C. CRFs
 - Modify Existing: [MBSE 209](#) and [PHYS 209](#): Soft Matter Physics
 - [MBSE 245](#) and [PHYS 241](#): Condensed Matter Physics
 - Discontinue: [PSY 239](#): Cognitive Development and Education
 - D. [Extension CRF: CRES X 420](#) : Refugee Teaching Institute
- VIII. Discussion Item: CRF Policy Review and Revision --CRF Subcommittee Chair Ni** **10 Min**

CRF Subcommittee has drafted a [revision to the existing CRF policy](#), reflecting the recent cases of course modification requests that included unit increase.

Action Requested: Review and approve the proposed revision.

IX. New Business?

X. Informational Item: [University Committee on Planning and Budget Letter on Graduate Student Funding](#)

The letter, addressed to Academic Council Chair Bhavnani, references the recent labor unrest among UC graduate students, and urges the University to consider the underlying challenges of graduate housing and funding, to ensure the long-term sustainability of graduate education. The letter was written on March 23, 2020, before UCPB was fully aware of the UC system's financial challenges ahead. CCGA Chair Balasubramaniam has disseminated the letter to Graduate Councils, and comments are welcomed.