UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

ACADEMIC SENATE – MERCED DIVISION

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)
AGENDA
Wednesday, September 7, 2022
12:00-1:20pm
COB 1 - 320

Documents available in box
Graduate Council Duties

I. Welcome and Introductions – Chair Scheibner – 12:00pm – 12:05pm

II. Chair’s Report – Michael Scheibner - 12:05pm – 12:15pm
   A. August 21 and 22 Governance Retreat
   B. September 6 Divisional Council meeting
   C. Update on the Gallo School of Management Review

III. Consent Calendar – Chair Scheibner – 12:15pm – 12:20pm
   A. Agenda
   B. GC’s Conflict of Interest Policy

   Action Requested: Approval of the consent calendar.

IV. Conducting Committee Business – Chair Scheibner –12:20pm – 12:25pm
Members review and, as relevant, discuss the following aspects of conducting committee business.

- Senate website
- GC’s website and GC’s Box site (also provided in the header)
- Meeting Schedule – meeting modality
- Educational Continuity Website
- Senate Policies and Procedures
- Divisional Bylaws and Regulations
- Systemwide Bylaws and Regulations
- Consultation Guidelines
- Principles to Guide the Practice of Executive Session
- Graduate Policies and Procedures Handbook (Revised May 2022)
- Confidentiality
- Distributing work on Graduate Council

All campus and systemwide review items will be posted on GC’s Box folder and on the Senate website, here: https://senate.ucmerced.edu/review-items. Some review items may be assigned to one or more GC reviewers before each scheduled meeting.

This agenda may contain confidential and privileged material for the sole use of GC Members.
V. Representation on Subcommittees, Work Groups, and Systemwide Committees - 12:25pm – 12:35pm

A. Campus Representation

- **Policy Subcommittee** (4 members; ideally representation from each school)

  This subcommittee reviews and makes recommendations to GC members on policies related to graduate education.

  **Requested Action:** Determine membership of this subcommittee.

- **Course Proposal Subcommittee** (3 members; one member to serve as the chair of the subcommittee; ideally representation from each school)

  This subcommittee reviews and makes recommendations to GC members on new/revised graduate courses.

  **Requested Action:** Determine membership of this subcommittee.

- **Fellowship Subcommittee** (minimum 3 members, ideally one from each school)

  This subcommittee reviews and makes recommendations on recruitment and continuing graduate fellowships.

  **Requested Action:** Determine membership of this subcommittee.

- **Periodic Review Oversight Committee (PROC)**

  GC representative: GC Vice Chair John Abatzoglou volunteered to serve as the PROC representative.

  The GC representative on PROC attends each PROC meeting and reports back to GC; takes turns acting as a lead reader for agenda items approximately once every two meetings (meeting materials are never more than 25 pages, and more typically less than 10, and the reader must read them in advance of the meeting and be prepared to weigh in on a specific questions); and participates in agenda item discussions, representing GC’s perspective and deciding when GC may need to weigh in on PROC business.

  The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 13, 2022 from 1:00-2:30pm.

  **No Action Requested.**

- **Support Services for Undocumented Students Work Group**

  **Representative: TBD**

  This work group is charged to annually review efforts and report outcomes of services offered to support graduate and undergraduate undocumented students at UC Merced.

  **Action Requested:** Identify a member to serve as the GC representative of this Work Group.

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B. Systemwide Representation
   • **Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA)**
     
     *Representative: GC Chair Michael Scheibner*
     CCGA advises the Senate and University administration on all matters regarding the promotion of research and learning related to graduate education.

     No Action Requested.

VI. **Anticipated Business for AY 22-23 – Chair Scheibner – 12:35pm – 12:40pm**

   Members review anticipated business for the year.

   A. CCGA proposal review
      a. GC will likely be reviewing a revised proposal for a Master’s in Public Health

   B. Develop, revise and/or finalize a policy for
      a. 4+1 program review (jointly with UGC and AFAC)

   C. Review Course Proposals, Graduate Group Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures
      a. Standard GC activity.

   D. System and campus review items

   **Action Requested:** Committee decides whether the Chair filters review items on its behalf.

VII. **GC AY 2022-23 Goals and Priorities – Chair Scheibner – 12:40pm - 12:50pm**

   Members discuss the Council’s goals for this academic year and propose additional goals.

VIII. **Postdoctoral Scholar Support and Development – Chair Scheibner – 12:50pm – 1:00pm**

   A. Train UC Merced’s diverse student population and ready them for competitive careers, while boosting scholarly output
   B. Develop strategic task force workgroups to assist with planning strategic initiatives
   C. Obtain more funding for hiring
   D. Enhance UC Merced's capacity to perform R1-level research
   E. Partner with Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED)

   **Requested Action:** GC to develop a proposal for postdoctoral programs, including final-year graduates.

IX. **Review of Continuing Graduate Fellowships – Chair Scheibner – 1:00pm – 1:05pm**

   The goal is to shift review of continuing graduate fellowships to earlier in the AY (e.g. to end of Fall), so submission & review will not coincide with recruitment fellowships. This revision will help balance committee workload.

   **Requested Action:** GC to determine if review of continuing graduate fellowships is to be conducted by the end of the Fall semester.
X. Consultation with VPDGE Hratchian – 1:05pm – 1:15pm
   A. Enrollment update
   B. Graduate Division staffing, space, and hours
   C. Research credit syllabi and policies
   D. In-person policy for advancement and defense examinations

XI. New Business? – 1:15pm – 1:20pm

XII. Informational Items
   A. GC AY 21-22 Annual Report
   B. Newly released Accountability Report
   C. GSR Unionization and Proposed Workgroup to Explore the Future of Graduate Student Funding
   D. Mitigating the Effects of Covid on Graduate Students

XIII. Executive Session – Committee Advisory Board (CAB) – 1:20pm – 1:30pm

   Executive Session Agenda and materials were provided to the prospective attendees.