

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)**Meeting Minutes****Wednesday, December 14, 2022****12:30pm-1:30pm****ADMIN 245**

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

I. Executive Session – Voting Members Only – 12:00pm – 12:30pm

No minutes were recorded during the executive session. The action items were shared with GC voting members.

II. Consent Calendar – Chair Scheibner – 12:30pm – 12:35pm

A. Agenda

B. [November 30 meeting minutes](#)C. [Request from SNS to extend the deadline to modify the start date for Cross-Disciplinary G-RISE Program Course offering \(BIOE 234/CHEM 234/Math 234/MBSE 234/PHYS 234/QSB 234\) to Spring 2023](#) (previously approved for Fall 2023)**Action:**

- The agenda and November 30 meeting minutes were approved as presented. GC Analyst will update the Senate website accordingly (completed 12/14).
- SNS's request to extend the deadline to modify the start date for the 6 courses listed above was approved. GC Analyst will notify the SNS Curriculum Manager (completed 12/14).

III. VPDGE Hratchian's Report – 12:35pm – 12:50pm

A. Application and admissions update

VPDGE Hratchian reported that the number of applications submitted this year is higher compared to the number of applications submitted this time last year. Several other UC campuses have reported that their numbers are currently low.

B. Grad Visitation Weekend

Grad Visitation Weekend is scheduled for February 22 and 23, 2023, which Graduate Division plans to fully fund. VPDGE Hratchian will work closely with graduate group chairs to ensure high yield rates.

C. Recruitment & Continuing fellowships

VPDGE Hratchian reminded the membership that he will be asking for assistance with the review of Recruitment fellowships. Applications are due mid-January, and VPDGE Hratchian would like

to ensure a quick turnaround so that Graduate Group Chairs can make their offers prior to Grad Visitation Weekend. Regarding Continuing fellowships, although Graduate Council had asked for an earlier review timeline, deadlines will remain the same as last year. In sum, the review of Recruitment and Continuing fellowships will occur subsequently. VPDGE Hratchian's goal is to announce the recipients of the Continuing fellowships by the first week in March 2023.

VPDGE Hratchian also reported that the Graduate Division is revising the Non-Residential Supplemental Tuition (NRST) language in the Graduate Student Handbook for clarity, and the Graduate Council will be invited to review the recommended revisions.

IV. Chair's Report – Michael Scheibner - 12:50pm – 1:00pm

- A. December 5 and 7 Regular Check-in Meeting UGC Chair Moyes, VPDUE Frey, VPDGE Hratchian, and Registrar Webb

Further discussions were held regarding the strike, specifically the extension to the deadline to submit final grades, pass/no pass grading options, and the Emergency Course Continuity Policy.

- B. December 5 CCGA Meeting

CCGA Chair Erith Jaffe-Berg attended the first UCOP Cyber Security Symposium where the security breaches that the UC System has experienced over the past several years were discussed. Members concluded that credit monitoring should be included in the benefits for UC faculty, employees, and students.

The Executive Director of Graduate Studies announced the new systemwide graduate admissions web page: <https://graduate.universityofcalifornia.edu/>. Three UC campuses have reported on residency issues. There is question of when graduate students count as residents because this has implications for Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition (NRST). VPDGE Hratchian confirmed that UC Merced's policy states that one year of NRST is provided for a domestic student who is not yet a California resident. NRST does not apply to year 2. Registrar Webb shared the link to the UCM Residency Policy: https://www.ucop.edu/uc-legal/_files/ed-affairs/uc-residence-policy.pdf.

- C. December 6 DivCo Meeting

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs And Strategy Spitzmüller and Assistant EVC/Provost Martin provided an update on campus strategic planning, including the development of a set of metrics for strategic planning measures, developing communications to the Schools and Departments, and planning-team consultations.

EVC/Provost Camfield requested Academic Senate representation to a Senate-Administration Work Group to review and revise the Policy for the Establishment of Schools and Colleges.

Chair Scheibner reported that it was announced during the December 13 Meeting of the Division that UC Merced was named an agricultural experimental station, which has huge implications for additional funds.

V. Vice Chair's Report – John Abatzoglou – 1:00pm – 1:05pm

- A. December 6 Grad Chairs Meeting including feedback on GC's spending plan for the allocation of MacKenzie Scott Gift funds

GC's spending plan for the allocation of MacKenzie Scott Gift funds is available [here](#).

Vice Chair Abatzoglou summarized the spending plan, noting that the idea is for the funds to be distributed over the next two years and the graduate groups would match the amount awarded to students for travel, conducting research, etc. Vice Chair Abatzoglou reported that graduate group chairs did not express any concerns with this plan during the December 6 graduate chairs meeting; however, they did wonder how the requests are to be submitted and who will review them. Vice Chair Abatzoglou recommended providing clarity on this aspect, as well as where exactly the matching of non-competitive funds would derive from.

Vice Chair Abatzoglou also reported on discussions regarding the policy for in-person exams and dissertations noting the challenges surrounding the large number of requests being submitted for remoteness. There is no required action at this time.

Action:

- GC agreed that the current spending plan for GC's allocation of MacKenzie Scott Gift funds requires clarification about where the matching of non-competitive funds would derive from.
- Members are to send their recommended language to Chair Scheibner **by 12:00pm, Monday, December 19, 2022.**

VI. Member Lee's Report – Min Hwan Lee – 1:05am – 1:10pm

- A. December 2 CAB Meeting

Member Lee reported that four courses were to be voted on during the meeting; however, a member inquired about the current processes, and now members are reviewing and voting on the four courses via email.

VII. Anonymous Graduate Student Survey – Chair Scheibner – 1:10pm – 1:25pm

During the November 9 GC meeting, two graduate students discussed the impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic, BSP building shutdown, and the Oracle Ordering System have had on their research and progress to degree. Members agreed to develop an anonymous survey for other graduate students to indicate the impacts that these three things have had on their research and progress to degree.

During the November 30 GC meeting, members discussed member Arevalo's proposed questions, and recommended revisions. An updated version of the list of questions is available [here](#).

Requested Action: Members to discuss the updated list of questions. If there are no further recommended revisions, voting members vote to endorse the list of questions.

Members reviewed the updated list of questions and recommended a couple additional revisions to the language. Member Arevalo will update the list, which will be further discussed at a future GC meeting.

Action:

- Member Arevalo will make additional edits to the draft list of questions and send them to GC Analyst and Chair Scheibner.
- Members will be invited to review/provide comments on the revised list of questions.

VIII. Any Other Business? – 1:25pm – 1:30pm

The GC Analyst reminded members to provide their vote on three items that were circulated via email and to confirm their Spring 2023 teaching schedules.