

**GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)**

**AGENDA**

**Wednesday, September 6, 2023**

**1:15pm – 2:45pm**

**ADMIN 345**

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

**I. Welcome and Introductions – Chair Scheibner – 1:15pm – 1:20pm**

**II. Chair’s Report – Michael Scheibner – 1:20pm – 1:30pm**

- A. July 5 CCGA Meeting
- B. Summer meetings with subgroups of the Joint Senate-Administration Working Group for the Future of Graduate Education
  - i. July 20 Academic Planning Council on Guidance for 299 Meeting
  - ii. August 10 Graduate Support/Funds Meeting
  - iii. August 11 Enrollment Management Meeting

**III. Vice Chair’s Report – John Abatzoglou – 1:30pm – 1:35pm**

- A. September 1 Grad Chairs Retreat
- B. September 6 Grad Chairs Meeting

**IV. Consent Calendar – Chair Scheibner – 1:35pm – 1:40pm**

- A. Agenda
- B. [May 12 Meeting Minutes](#)
- C. [GC’s Conflict of Interest Policy](#)
- D. Courses  
[Revised]  
[COGS - 256 - Language in Minds, Brains and Machines](#) – In Spring 2023, GC reviewed the proposal and asked for revision or clarification regarding a 4-unit class having a 2-hour lecture and 2-hour lab (A 4-unit course expects 12 hours of work per week). The proposal has been updated to reflect a 3-hour lecture with 9 non-contact hours.

**Requested Action:** Approval of the consent calendar.

**V. Conducting Committee Business – Chair Scheibner – 1:40pm – 1:50pm**

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](#)

- [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 2023)
- 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.

## VI. Representation on Subcommittees, Work Groups, and Systemwide Committees – All - 1:50pm – 2:00pm

### 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. This subcommittee also reviews and makes recommendations to GC members on new/revised Extension courses, postbaccalaureate courses, and Teacher Preparation Program (TPP) requests.

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

- **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.

- **Awards Subcommittee (minimum of three GC Senate faculty; balanced representation from a range of academic areas and broad school representation. If additional expertise is needed, non-GC members will be appointed by Chair Scheibner).**

This subcommittee is responsible for:

- Reviewing nominations for the Graduate Teaching/Mentorship Award in the Spring term.
- Reviewing the applications for the Graduate Student Supplemental Travel Award throughout the academic year to ensure each nomination includes a research/academic related abstract and will be supported by the appropriate amount and source of matching funds.

**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 Thursday, September 14, 2023.

**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.

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

#### 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.**

#### VII. **GC AY 2023-24 Goals, Priorities, and Anticipated Business** – Chair Scheibner – 2:00pm – 2:20pm

**Requested Action:** Members discuss the Council's goals for this academic year and propose additional goals. The Committee also decides whether the Chair and Vice Chair filter review items on its behalf.

**VIII. Cognitive & Information Sciences (CIS) Graduate Advising Exception Request – Chair Scheibner  
- 2:20pm – 2:30pm**

The CIS Graduate Group is seeking an exception for a faculty member to remain the primary advisor for a 6th-year CIS PhD student, even after they are no longer a core member of the CIS Graduate Group.

**Requested Action:** Voting members vote to approve the exception.

**IX. Consultation with VPDGE Hratchian – 2:30pm – 2:40pm**

- A. Enrollment update
- B. Shifting the review of fellowships (deadline: October – November)
- C. October 9 UC-wide Academic Congress

**X. Any Other Business – 2:40pm – 2:45pm**