

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)

AGENDA

Monday, October 18, 2023

1:15pm – 2:30pm

ZOOM ONLY

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

Zoom Information:

<https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/82647243967>

Meeting ID: 826 4724 3967

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,82647243967# US

I. Consent Calendar – Chair Scheibner – 1:15pm – 1:20pm

A. Agenda

B. [October 2 Meeting Minutes](#)

C. Courses

[NEW]

[MATH - 246 - Numerical Linear Algebra](#)

[MATH - 280 - Mathematical and Statistical Foundations of Data Science](#)

[MATH - 282 - Statistical and Machine Learning](#)

[MATH - 293 - SMART Team](#)

[REVISED]

[MATH - 222 - Partial Differential Equations](#)

[PHYS - 241 - Condensed Matter Physics](#)

Requested Action: Approval of the Consent Calendar.

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

A. October 4 CCGA Meeting

B. October 9 Academic Congress on the Future of Graduate Education

III. Member Arevalo’s Report – Rebeca Arevalo – 1:30pm – 1:35pm

A. October 12 DivCo Meeting

IV. Vice Chair’s Report – John Abatzoglou – 1:35pm – 1:40pm

A. October 4 Grad Chairs Meeting

V. **Systemwide Review Items – All – 1:40pm – 1:50pm**

A. [Proposed New APM 672-Negotiated Salary Program](#)

The purpose of the Negotiated Salary Program (NSP) is to provide a mechanism for participating campuses to augment faculty compensation on a temporary basis according to the competitive requirements of academic disciplines.

Requested Action: Members continue to discuss and offer comments on the proposed new APM 672-Negotiated Salary Program. Comments due to GC Analyst Snyder **by Thursday, October 26, 2023**. Comments due to the Senate Chair by Friday, November 3, 2023.

VI. **Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Survey Results – Rebeca Arevalo and Min Hwan Lee – 1:50pm – 2:00pm**

At the October 2, 2023 GC meeting, members Lee and Arevalo discussed the following three impacts that they identified to be the most important to elevate to the administration to address:

1. *Advisor Mentoring* - include “Postdoctoral Mentoring Guidelines” in Graduate Groups’ Policies and Procedures, which should outline the frequency of meetings and clarify advisors’ roles and responsibilities in updating students of their degree milestones.
2. *Resource Portal* - include a one-pager to the existing portal that contains all necessary links and contact information, an FAQ section, etc.
3. *Graduate Group Chair/Student Relationship* – improve communication to notify students of career workshops, job-matching events, and professional development support.

Members Lee and Arevalo sorted the three impacts they have identified as most important to recommend to Graduate Group Chairs and the Administration, and for GC to address.

Requested Action: Members Arevalo and Lee will provide the committee with an update. Members discuss the draft memo to transmit to the Senate Chair.

VII. **Future of Graduate Education – Chair Scheibner – 2:00pm – 2:20pm**

At the September 20, 2023 GC meeting, Chair Scheibner shared his PowerPoint presentation, available [here](#), and asked members the following three questions:

1. **Opportunities for funding graduate education and research training:**
Can we envision a more consistent, sustainable, and plannable funding support of graduate education that enables an economy of scale for Faculty, GGs/Depts., Schools, etc.?
2. **Opportunities for a more holistic vision of graduate career paths:**
What mechanisms and support would be needed to provide graduate students opportunities to prepare for the full spectrum of careers; in- and outside academia?
3. **Opportunities to elevate graduate training & research culture:**
What measures can we take to advance fundamental discovery, stimulate innovation and creative expression, across disciplines fields and industries?

Today, GC will continue to discuss the three questions above and identify particular situations, needs, and opportunities at UC Merced that pertain to the impacts from the new contracts.

This agenda may contain confidential and privileged material for the sole use of GC Members.

Requested Action: Members engage in discussion and determine next steps.

VIII. VPDGE Hratchian’s Report – 2:20pm – 2:30pm

- A. Continuing fellowships timeline
- B. Block grant funding model for graduate groups

IX. Any Other Business – 2:30pm – 2:35pm

X. Executive Session – Voting Members Only – 2:35pm – 2:45pm