GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)

AGENDA
Wednesday, November 15, 2023
1:15pm – 2:45pm
ADMIN 345

Documents available in box
Graduate Council Duties

Zoom Information:
https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/87885666940
Meeting ID: 878 8566 6940
One tap mobile: +16694449171,,87885666940# US

I.   **Consent Calendar – Chair Scheibner – 1:15pm – 1:20pm**
   A. Agenda
   B. October 30 Meeting Minutes
   C. Revised Physics AY 24-25 Catalog
   D. Courses
       [NEW]
       QSB - 279 - Principles of Data Visualization in R for Biologists

       [REVISED]
       MBSE - 210 - Solid-State Materials

   Requested Action: Approval of the Consent Calendar.

II.   **Chair's Report – Michael Scheibner – 1:20pm – 1:30pm**
   A. November 1 CCGA Meeting
   B. November 9 DivCo Meeting

III. **Vice Chair's Report – John Abatzoglou – 1:30pm – 1:35pm**
   A. November 1 PROC Meeting
   B. November 1 Grad Chairs Meeting

IV.   **Campus Review Item – All – 1:35pm – 1:45pm**
   A. Proposal for Aerospace B.S. Degree Program (effective Fall 25)
       The proposal was distributed to the Chairs of Senate Committees, the SSHA Executive Committee,
       and the SNS Executive Committee. GC is not a lead reviewer; however, members are welcome to
       comment.

       Chair Scheibner reviewed the proposal and offered minor comments regarding a reference to
       graduate programs. A draft memo, which includes his comments, is available here.

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Requested Action: Members discuss the proposal and the draft memo linked above. If there are no additional comments, members approve the draft memo.

V.   **Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Survey Results – Rebeca Arevalo and Min Hwan Lee – 1:45pm – 1:55pm**
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.

At the October 18, 2023 GC meeting, members Lee and Arevalo provided the membership with an update on how they sorted the three impacts they have identified as most important to recommend to Graduate Group Chairs and the Administration, and for GC to address. Following the meeting, they drafted a memo to DivCo and the Administration with their recommendations, available here.

Requested Action: Members discuss member Arevalo's and member Lee's draft memo and provide additional comments.

VI.   **Revised Policy for the Establishment of Undergraduate Graduate Hybrid Degree Programs – 1:55pm – 2:10pm**
On April 19, 2023, GC approved the proposed Policy for the Establishment of Undergraduate/Graduate Hybrid Degree Programs and GC's revised Procedures for

On September 14, 2023, DivCo was invited to review GC's proposed Policy for the Establishment of Undergraduate/Graduate Hybrid Degree Programs.

Comments received:
CAPRA
CoR
LASC
ALO
EVC/Provost
SoE Executive Committee

A summary of the comments is available here.

On November 7, 2023, the GC Policy Subcommittee met to discuss and implement recommendations from CAPRA, CoR, LASC, ALO Martin, Interim EVC/Provost Zatz, and the SoE Executive Committee.

An updated version of the proposed policy is available here. A draft response memo is available here.

Requested Action: Members discuss the Senates' comments on the proposed policy. Members vote on the revised policy and draft response memo.

VII.   Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation III.1.A.d. (P/NP) – All – 2:10pm – 2:20pm
On October 26, 2023, UGC implemented minor revisions to Senate Regulation I.1.E (Passed/Not Passed) to allow first-year students to switch from a letter grade to Pass/Not Passed up until the last day of instruction. The Senate Regulation currently includes the following language related to graduate students:

For graduate students, the grade P is not considered as meeting the academic criteria for satisfactory progress, for university-administered fellowships, or for academic appointments/employment. A graduate student may elect P/NP grading for one course only (a maximum of 4 units) per semester. Under no circumstances will courses taken P/NP count toward unit and degree requirements for any graduate degree program.

Senate Executive Director Fatima Paul and subsequently UGC recommended that GC include the language above in Senate Regulation III.1.A.d. (P/NP for graduate students). The proposed revisions are shown in tracked changes, here.

Requested Action: Members discuss and recommend revisions to Senate Regulation III.1.A.d. (P/NP for graduate students). Members vote to approve the proposed revisions. The Academic Senate will need to approve the revisions to the Senate Regulation prior to implementation.

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

IX.   Any Other Business – 2:30pm – 2:35pm
   A. Unofficial Transcript issue
   B. Graduate Student Supplemental Travel Awards – webform submission requirement

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