

**GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)**

**AGENDA**

**Thursday, April 11, 2024**

**11:30am – 12:40pm**

**COB 2 - 392**

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

**Zoom Information:**

<https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/83155165562>

**Meeting ID:** 831 5516 5562

**One tap mobile:** +16694449171,,83155165562# US

**I. Consent Calendar – Chair Scheibner – 11:30am – 11:35am**

- A. Agenda
- B. [March 14 Meeting Minutes](#)
- C. [Draft Memo re: SSHA Proposal for a Neuroscience Degree Program](#)
- D. [Draft Memo re: Proposed Academic Senate Statement on UC Quality](#)

**Requested Action:** Approval of the Consent Calendar.

**II. Chair’s Report – Michael Scheibner – 11:35am – 11:50am**

- A. March 25 DivCo Meeting
- B. April 3 CCGA Meeting
- C. TAS Budget Work Group Meetings
- D. ES Graduate Program Site Visit

**III. Vice Chair’s Report – John Abatzoglou – 11:50am – 11:55am**

- A. March 20 PROC Meeting
- B. March 27 SNS/SoE Chairs’ Meeting

**IV. Graduate Students Teaching Graduate Students Policy – 11:55pm – 12:00pm**

Throughout the Spring semester, members discussed under which conditions to grant exceptions for qualified PhD students to teach graduate courses.

Vice Chair Abatzoglou, VPDGE Hratchian, Senate Executive Director Paul, and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies Cisneros proposed amendments to the current policy. During the March 14, 2024 GC meeting, members proposed the following additional edits:

- Separate the first enumeration into two separate items (both sections).
- Remove “than” in item 4 (first section).

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

- Add language in item 5 (second section) stating that if the instructor or record is not a Senate faculty member, a petition for how the TA would be supervised must be filed with GC for approval.

All proposed revisions are available in tracked changes, [here](#). A clean version is available [here](#).

**Requested Action:** Members review the additional proposed revisions. If there are no further recommended revisions, voting members vote to approve the proposed revisions.

**V. Assignment of Initial Advisor/Change of Advisor – 12:00pm – 12:20pm**

How should an advisor be assigned? When an advisor leaves the graduate group, will the graduate group chair become the student’s default advisor, and is a change of advisor form formally needed in this case?

Today, members are to discuss whether the Graduate Group Policies and Procedures Handbook (GPPH) should be revised to provide guidance to graduate groups for managing assignment of initial advisor and change of advisor. Members are also to review the current [change of advisor form](#) and recommend revisions.

**Requested Action:** Members discuss the current process for assigning an initial advisor and a change in advisor. Members determine whether the GPPH should include guidance for graduate groups and recommend revisions to the current change of advisor form.

**VI. VPDGE Hratchian’s Report – 12:20pm – 12:35pm**

**VII. Any Other Business – 12:35pm - 12:40pm**

A. Systemwide Review Item

a. [UC Regents Policy on Public and Discretionary Statements by Academic](#)

GC is not a lead reviewer, but members are welcome to comment. Members are to send any comments to GC Analyst by **5:00pm, Friday, April 12, 2024**. Comments are due to the Senate Chair by Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

**VIII. Executive Session – Voting Members Only – 12:40pm – 1:00pm**