

**GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)****AGENDA****Friday, January 24, 2025****11:30am – 1:00pm****ZOOM**

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

- I. Executive Session – Voting Members Only – 11:30am – 11:40am**
- II. Consent Calendar – Chair Abatzoglou – 11:40am – 11:50am**
- A. Today’s Agenda
  - B. [November 26 Draft Meeting Minutes](#)
  - C. [GC’s Draft Memo Re: Presidential Policy on the Use of Animals in Research, Teaching, and Testing](#)
  - D. [GC’s Draft Memo Re: Non-Degree Certificate Proposals](#)
  - E. Proposed Graduate Group Revisions to University Catalog AY 2025-2026 Content
    - [Bioengineering](#)
    - [Quantitative Systems Biology](#)
    - [Applied Mathematics](#)
  - F. Courses
    - [PHYS - 274 - Advanced Quantum Computing](#) (Modify Existing, Fall 2025)
- Requested Action:** Approval of the Consent Calendar.
- III. Chair’s Report – John Abatzoglou – 11:50am – 12:05pm**
- A. December 2 and 16 Divisional Council Meetings
  - B. December 4 and January 8 CCGA Meetings
  - C. December 5 SNS and SOE Graduate Group Chairs’ Meeting
  - D. December 16 Meeting of the Merced Division
- IV. Vice Chair’s Report – Irene Beattie – 12:05pm – 12:15pm**
- A. December 9 PROC Meeting
- V. Curriculum Advisory Board (CAB)/Extension Program – Vice Chair Beattie – 12:15pm – 12:25pm**
- In Fall 2024, Dean of University Extension Annette Roberts Webb requested guidance from GC on how to improve CAB, especially in terms of the charge and turnover. CAB members Mayya Tokman and Zenaida Aguirre-Munoz joined the October 29, 2024 GC meeting to discuss their experience serving on CAB. On January 16, 2025, Vice Chair Beattie met with Senate Executive Director Paul and the GC Analyst to discuss the next steps and agreed to work together to draft a charge.

Supporting Documentation:

- Senate Regulations regarding University Extension Credit Courses are available [here](#).

- UC Berkeley’s Regulation of the Academic Senate related to instructors of University Extension Courses is available [here](#).
- Additional information regarding CAB and the Teacher Practitioner Advisory Board (TPAB) is available [here](#).

**Requested Action:** Members further discuss and determine the next steps.

**VI. Proposed Change to Graduate Admissions Requirements: Acceptance of the Duolingo English Test (DET) – Chair Abatzoglou – 12:25pm – 12:35pm**

The Graduate Division proposes formally accepting the Duolingo English Test (DET) in fulfillment of the Examination of English for Non-Native Speakers requirement. If approved, the DET may substitute for either of the existing required exams as part of the graduate application for admission: the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

**Requested Action:** Members to discuss and vote if there is a consensus.

**VII. Campus and Systemwide Review Items – Chair Abatzoglou – 12:35pm – 12:40pm**

A. Presidential Policy on Dual Use Research of Concern and Pathogens with Enhanced Pandemic Potential (Systemwide)

This policy revises the current [UC Dual Use Research of Concern Policy](#) with new and updated provisions, per the White House [communication](#) on dual use research issued May 6, 2024. Specifically, the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) issued the [United States Government Policy for Oversight of Dual Use Research of Concern \(DURC\) and Pathogens with Enhanced Pandemic Potential \(PEPP\) \(USG Policy\)](#).

**Requested Action:** GC to decide whether to opine. If opining, identify a lead reviewer. The lead reviewer’s comments will be circulated via email by Monday, January 27, 2025, and will serve as the basis for GC’s official response to the Senate Chair.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **Monday, February 3, 2025**.

B. Proposed Revisions to APM 675 – Veterinary Medicine Salary Administration (Systemwide)

Summary of proposed revisions:

- Clarification that faculty members paid on the Veterinary Medicine Salary Scale are not permitted to participate in the Health Sciences Compensation Plan ([APM - 670](#)).
- Clarification that participation by faculty members paid on the Veterinary Medicine Salary Scale in the Negotiated Salary Program ([APM - 672](#)) or any future compensation or salary plan is predicated on the requirement that faculty first fully meet the minimum contribution requirements specified in APM - 675-8.d, 675 - 8.e, and 675 - 8.

**Requested Action:** GC to decide whether to opine. If opining, identify a lead reviewer. The lead reviewer’s comments will be circulated via email by Friday, February 7, 2025, and will serve as the basis for GC’s official response to the Senate Chair.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **Friday, February 14, 2025**.

C. [Proposed Revisions to APM 036 – Employment](#) (Systemwide)

The policy revisions respond to the need to address a new bill signed into California state law that adds section 66284 to the California Education Code, effective January 1, 2025 (reference [AB 1905](#) “Public postsecondary education: employment: settlements, informal resolutions, and retreat rights”), and requires the University to adopt a written policy regarding official letters of recommendation, among other requirements, as a condition of receiving state funding. The proposed technical revisions are intended to bring the University into compliance with section 66284 of the California Education Code.

**Requested Action:** GC to decide whether to opine. If opining, identify a lead reviewer. The lead reviewer’s comments will be circulated via email by Friday, February 14, 2025, and will serve as the basis for GC’s official response to the Senate Chair.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **Friday, February 28, 2025.**

D. [Interim Policy on Consensual Relationships](#) (Campus Wide)

The policy is intended to clarify expectations and support faculty and staff in avoiding professional conflicts of interest related to consensual relationships.

**Requested Action:** GC to decide whether to opine. If opining, identify a lead reviewer. The lead reviewer’s comments will be circulated via email by Tuesday, February 21, 2025, and will serve as the basis for GC’s official response to the Senate Chair.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **Monday, March 3, 2025.**

E. [Proposal for a new Non-Degree Program from the UCM Division of Professional and Continuing Education \(PACE\): PK-3 Early Childhood Education \(ECE\) Specialist Instruction Credential](#) (Campus Wide)

The proposal has been reviewed and endorsed by PACE. The WSCUC Substantive Change Specialist has been consulted, and all WSCUC requirements have been met.

The guiding policy governing the establishment of a non-degree program is available [here](#).

Additional resources to help guide the Senate’s review may be found at the links below:

- [Preparing the UCM Extension Non-Degree Proposal](#)
- [Professional and Continuing Education \(PACE\) Handbook](#) (beginning on page 3)

The Division of Professional and Continuing Education hopes to implement this proposal in Fall 2025.

*GC is a lead reviewer.*

**Requested Action:** Identify a lead reviewer. The lead reviewer will send their comments to the GC Analyst by Friday, January 31, 2025. GC voting members will be invited to review the lead reviewer’s draft memo at the February 7, 2025 GC meeting.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **Friday, February 21, 2025.**

F. [Proposal for a Dual Degree Program Leading to a Bachelor of Science \(B.S.\) Degree from UCM and Doctor of Medicine Degree from UCSF](#) (Campus Wide)

The proposal packet includes:

- The dual degree proposal itself, which follows Appendix W (pp.83-84) of the September 2023 revision of the [Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs Handbook](#).
- A letter from the Executive Committee of each of UC Merced’s three schools. I thank them for their reviews, which have strengthened the proposal.
- The BS/MD Dual Degree Supplement. This document responds to questions and need for additional context raised by the Executive Committees that could not easily be accommodated in the proposal itself because the desired information does not align with the questions in Appendix W.
- Letters from the Interim Dean of the School of Natural Sciences, the University Librarian, and Chief Information Officer.
- The UCM-UCSF MOU.

The following documents are available to help guide the review:

- [Academic Degree Programs: UGC's Review/Approval Policy](#)
- [Procedures for Submitting Proposals for Graduate Emphasis Areas and Graduate Programs](#)
- [CCGA Handbook](#) (Appendix W, page 83) and the [Compendium](#) (Section II.B1. Establishment of New Graduate Degree Programs, and Appendix A of this document)
- [Policy and Procedures for Establishing Hybrid Undergraduate/Graduate Degree Programs \(Jan. 2024\)](#)

*GC is a lead reviewer.*

**Requested Action:** Identify a lead reviewer. The lead reviewer will send their comments to the GC Analyst by Monday, February 10, 2025. GC voting members will be invited to review the lead reviewer’s draft memo at the February 21, 2025 GC meeting.

Comments are due to the Senate Chair by **Friday, March 7, 2025.**

**VIII. VPDGE Hratchian’s Report – 12:40pm – 12:55pm**

- A. Graduate Visitation Day
- B. Graduate Admissions
- C. Recruitment Fellowships
- D. Funding Gaps for External Fellowship Programs

**IX. Any Other Business – 12:55pm – 1:00pm**

**X. Informational Item**

- A. [GC Memo Re: Implementation of Public Law 117-328](#)