

GRADUATE COUNCIL (GC)

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Graduate Council Duties

Meeting called to order at 1:34PM. All members were in attendance (two by Zoom). Consultant Erin Webb was also present.

I. **Executive Session** None held.

II. **Chair's Report**

The chair welcomed Ritu, the new GSA rep, and reported on the progress being made by the CRF Work Group. The systemwide provost expects for new proposals for new programs to address diversity. Proposals must include DEI visions for “discipline as a whole”---could be in research, impact of work, outreach, or pipeline of students/early career professionals. Without the broad view, proposals will not be approved at the system level.

III. **Consent Calendar**

- A. The agenda (1/21)
- B. Minutes from [11/20](#) and [12/11](#) meetings

Hearing no objection, consent calendar was approved as presented.

IV. **Revised P&P: [Physics](#) and [Psychological Sciences](#)—*Alex Theodoridis, Linda-Ann Rebhun***

Member Rebhun's review, which compares the two P&Ps, is available [here](#).

It was noted that Physics has very few PLOs (only 3); Psychological Sciences P&P lists grievance procedure and an evaluation form for students, both of which would be beneficial for all programs to have. Physics P&P lists unit requirements that do not align with campus policy.

ACTION: Approve psychological sciences P&P; Return Physics P&P with a list of suggested changes, as well as a suggestion to add grievance procedure and evaluation template. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion on reviewing P&P template and instituting a review timeline followed. Suggestions included sunset clause for P&Ps, a more stringent template to review P&Ps against, and a regular (as opposed to many interim) updates. There are tendencies for programs to change itself through revised P&P without formal review of program.

ACTION: Discuss item for revised P&P template at a GC meeting in February or March.

V. **Campus Review Items**

A. **Interim Policy for Enrollment Management of Impacted Programs—*Shawn Newsam, Alex Theodoridis***

The [policy](#) was developed by Undergraduate Council and its Admissions and Financial Aid and Scholarships subcommittee. Member Newsam's comments are available [here](#).

The draft policy's primary focus is on the question of designation (as an impacted program), while the need is greatest in developing policies and concrete plan for managing the situation. It is called “interim” policy but not fast-tracking currently impacted programs (Computer Science and Engineering, Biology, and Psychology). Discussions on ways to manage impacted programs followed.

ACTION: Draft memo to circulate after Member Newsam’s review. Transmit to Senate Chair by 2/7/20.

VI. Catalog Revisions—Chair Westerling

Graduate Division has submitted proposed catalog [revisions for 10 Programs](#).

Reviewers assigned to all programs except Physics, to be assigned when it is returned. Reviews are due at GC’s 2/4 meeting.

The registrar offered to submit, at a future GC meeting, a proposal to streamline catalog revision review, so that GC need not review non-substantial revision, much like for undergraduate level catalog review.

VII. Inquiry from MBSE about revising PLOs and its impact on CRF Process –Chair Westerling

MBSE’s revised P&P (under review) has an additional PLO (PLO 6). MBSE asked if the syllabi accompanying the CRFs for Fall 2020 should list PLO 6 or not. GC members discussed the desirability of an annual review of curriculum map that connect PLOs and CLOs, instead of using CRF.

ACTION: Respond to MBSE not to list PLO6.

ACTION: In discussion of CRFs at future GC meetings, consider development of curriculum map to replace the PLO-CLO requirement in CRFs.

VIII. Discussion Item: CatCourses Auto-Populate Contents—Chair Westerling

Following GC’s proposal, the CatCourses Work Group has consulted with administrative units on contents that will be auto-populated in CatCourses, which are available in [the draft policy document](#). GC members suggested addition of language on Academic Freedom, when one becomes available.

ACTION: Endorse the proposal.

IX. Discussion Item: GRE requirement—Chair Westerling

UC Merced is currently the only UC campus that requires GRE as a campus; at other campuses the GRE requirements are at the discretion of graduate programs.

Members discussed the benefits and drawbacks of requiring GRE. It was agreed to delegate the GRE requirement to Graduate Groups.

ACTION: Discontinue requiring GRE at campus level. Revise Graduate P&P Handbook and Template to specify that there is no GRE requirement at campus level, and request all graduate groups to make their decisions by the end of semester. Motion carried unanimously.

X. Consultation with VPDGE

- A. Updates on admissions 8% over what they had last year. Quality has gotten better over the years.
- B. Preparation for potential Supreme Court decision on DACA (off record)—Chair mentioned that at the systemwide senate meeting, it was pointed out something other than DACA is needed because students are “aging out.”

XI. New Business?

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:53PM.