

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
AY 2022-2023**

During the academic year 2022-2023, the Graduate Council (GC) met fifteen times in person and once via zoom and conducted some business via email with respect to its duties as outlined in UCM Senate Bylaw [II.IV.3.B](#).

University Registrar Erin Webb participated in meetings as a consultant to the committee. A summary of Graduate Council's business for the year follows.

GC ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

GC operated with four standing subcommittees that met primarily via email throughout the year. The CRF Subcommittee reviewed all requests for new graduate courses and modifications to existing courses, with its recommendations presented to the Council as a whole.

Likewise, the Policy Subcommittee made recommendations to the Council as a whole regarding all graduate- related policies, including Graduate Group Policies and Procedures.

The Fellowship Subcommittee led GC's oversight of graduate fellowships and awards. The Subcommittee made recommendations to the Graduate Division on consolidation of smaller fellowships, and suggested modifications to the review process aimed at ensuring consistency of the reviews across applications.

The CAB Subcommittee was formed to review all requests for new Extension courses, post baccalaureate courses, and the Teacher Preparation Program each year.

Subcommittee memberships were as follows:

CRF Subcommittee: Sandie Ha (SSHA), chair; John Abatzoglou (SoE); Clarissa Nobile (SNS), Rebeca Arevalo (SNS)

Policy Subcommittee: Karl Ryavec (SSHA); Michael Scheibner (SNS); Min-Hwan Lee (SoE)

Fellowship Subcommittee: Sandie Ha (SSHA); Kara McCloskey (SoE); Michael Scheibner (SNS); Rebeca Arevalo (SNS)

CAB Subcommittee: John Abatzoglou (SoE); Sandie Ha (SSHA); Clarissa Nobile (SNS); Min Hwan Lee (SoE); and UGC member Heather Bortfeld (SSHA)

An ad-hoc subcommittee was formed for the review of nominations for the Distinguished Graduate Teaching/Mentorship Award. The names of the Awards recipients are available here: https://senate.ucmerced.edu/senate_awards.

CAMPUS AND SYSTEM REVIEW ITEMS

GC offered comments or otherwise took action on the following review items.

- Proposed Revisions to APM-025 and APM-671 (9/28)*
- UCM Centers Policy (10/10)

- Creation of a Philosophy Department in SSHA (10/21)
- Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs (12/21)
- Proposal to Establish an Electrical Engineering (EE) Department (2/3)
- New Presidential Policy on Anti-Discrimination (2/28)*
- Proposed Revisions to APM 210 (6/6)*
- Proposed Revisions to APM 710 (6/6)*

*Systemwide review items

Other

- Correspondence to Graduate Chairs regarding Graduate Policy Guidance (9/23).
- Endorsed the development of a joint Senate-Administration Working Group comprised of CAB members, GC voting members, the Dean of Extension, and School Deans (or delegees) (10/05).
- Endorsed the acceptance of the TOEFL Home Edition (11/16).
- Offered comments on PROC's proposed guidelines to support pilot of concurrent review of undergraduate and graduate programs (12/16).
- Endorsed QSB's proposal for a concentration in Computational and Theoretical Biology (1/23).
- Invited CAPRA, CoR, and LASC to review the revised proposal for a Master's in Data Science and Analytics (1/27).
- Reviewed and endorsed the Policy for the Establishment of UC Merced Extension Non-Degree Programs (2/9).
- Recommended revisions to the Graduate Policies and Procedures Handbook (GPPH) regarding part-time enrollment status (3/3).
- Prepared a call for the MacKenzie Scott Graduate Student Supplemental Travel Award (3/3).
- Reviewed the committee results of the recruitment fellowships (3/10).
- Proposed revisions to the funding language in Graduate Group Policies and Procedures (3/10).
- Distributed a call for the MacKenzie Scott Graduate Student Supplemental Travel Award (4/26).
- Provided revisions to GC's proposed Policy for the Establishment of Undergraduate/Graduate Hybrid Degree Programs (5/2).
- Approved revisions to the funding language in all 17 graduate groups' Policies and Procedures (P&Ps) (5/4).
- Reviewed the committee results of the continuing fellowships (5/15).
- Approved revisions to the Graduate Policies and Procedures Handbook (GPPH) (5/19).
- Transmitted a proposed Policy for the Establishment of Undergraduate/Graduate Hybrid Degree Programs to DivCo for consideration (6/22).

GRADUATE COURSE REQUESTS

- GC approved 49 requests for new courses or revisions to existing courses in Curriculog.
- GC approved one request from the Department of Art History/Visual Culture, GAMWS to offer IH 210 01 in online modality.

GRADUATE STUDENT APPOINTMENTS AS INSTRUCTOR FOR UPPER DIVISION COURSES

GC considered and approved 17 requests to appoint graduate students as instructors for upper division courses. GC also approved 2 reappointments.

GRADUATE GROUP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

GC offered provisional approval to the following graduate group Policies and Procedures, provided that the graduate group address GC and the Graduate Division comments.

- Public Health (PH)
- Mechanical Engineering (ME)
- Environmental Systems (ES)

GC approved, effective Fall 2024, revisions to the Policies and Procedures of the following program:

- Materials and Biomaterials Science Engineering (MBSE)

Respectfully submitted,

GC Members

Michael Scheibner, Chair (SNS), CCGA Representative
John Abatzoglou, Vice Chair (SoE), PROC Representative
Roberto Andresen Eguiluz (SoE) (Spring 2023)
Rebeca Arevalo (SNS) (Spring 2023)
Sandie Ha (SSHA)
Nigel Hatton (SSHA)
Kara McCloskey (SoE) (Fall 2022)
Min Hwan Lee (SoE) (Spring 2023)
Clarissa Nobile (SNS)
Karl Ryavec (SSHA)

Ex-Officio

Hrant Hratchian, Interim Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Education

Student Representative

Albert Dibenedetto, Graduate Student Representative

Postdoctoral Scholar Representative

Syeda Tajin Ahmed, Postdoctoral Scholar Representative

Senate Staff

Melanie Snyder, Senate Senior Analyst