To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

Graduate Council met for fourteen regularly scheduled two-hour sessions during the 2017-18 term.

Executive Summary
The Graduate Council’s purpose is to set standards for and policy on graduate education; to ensure the viability and quality of graduate programs; and to provide advice and consent on all matters of policy, planning, programs and practice that impact the quality and diversity of UCSB’s graduate students and their educational experience.

The Graduate Council discussed and took action on a variety of key issues during the 2017-18 term, among them:

- Clarifying and revising the Divisional Regulations pertaining to Master’s Degree Plan II: Project Committees
- Approving revisions to the Graduate Division Expanded Time-to-Degree for Parenting Demands policy
- Reviewing the original and then modified (but not yet acceptable) proposal to establish a Master of Environmental Data Science
- Responding to the federal government proposal, H.R. 1: The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which would have eliminated the ability for graduate students to deduct from their taxable income fee remission of mandatory student fees and tuition
- Commenting on various divisional and systemwide draft policy documents including: a proposal to Allow the Appointment of Undergraduates and Non-Students as Teaching Assistants; a proposed Classroom Recording Policy; the Systemwide Review of Taskforce on Negotiated Salary Trial Program; the Procedures for Reported Senate and Non-Senate Faculty Violations of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy; and a proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations

I. Graduate Course Requests
Graduate Council authorizes, supervises, and regulates all graduate courses except such courses exempted by action of the Regents. During the period between 7/1/2017 and 6/30/2018, Council processed a total of 204 course requests, including new courses, modifications, and discontinuations.

II. Review of Academic Programs and Research Units
In cooperation with the Program Review Panel, Graduate Council participated in the Academic Program Review of the following departments and programs during the 2017-18 term: Education and the Teacher Education Program, English, Global Studies and Physics.
Graduate Council recommended six departments and one program for Academic Program Review in 2019-20.

III. Proposals to Establish Programs, Emphases, Academic Units and Research Units
- Reviewed the proposal to establish an International Center for the Humanities and Social Change
- Reviewed the revised proposal to establish a B.A. in Marine Science
- Reviewed and did not approve the proposal to establish a Master of Environmental Data Science
- Reviewed the proposal to establish a non-ORU Climate Hazards Center
- Reviewed and approved the establishment of the Education Specialist Credential for Teaching Students with Mild/Moderate Disabilities in the Teacher Education Program

IV. Name Changes
Graduate Council did not receive any name change proposals for 2017-18.

V. Changes to Existing Programs
- Approved the proposed change to admission requirements for the five-year B.S./M.S. in Actuarial Science
- Approved the change to admission requirements to the M.M. degree
- Approved the Program Learning Outcomes for the M.A. Research Strand and M.A. Professional Strand in Education
- Approved the proposed curricular changes for the Ph.D. in Political Science
- Approved the proposed changes to the Ph.D. minor exam in the History of Art and Architecture
- Approved the addition of a core course option to the M.S. and Ph.D. in Biomolecular Science and Engineering
- Approved a change to a core course for the Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Management
- Approved changes to the core course units for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Geography
- Approved the proposed time-to-degree changes for the Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering
- Approved course changes in the Teacher Education Program
- Approved the proposed time-to-degree changes for the Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering
- Approved the addition of the Department of Global Studies to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Demography
- Approved the addition of the Department of English to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Cognitive Science
- Approved the proposed curricular changes for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Counseling, Clinical and School Psychology
- Approved the addition of a qualifying field for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science
- Approved, with conditions, the re-opening of admissions to the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Chicana and Chicano Studies
Approved the revision to degree requirements for the M.A. in Chicana and Chicano Studies
Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the M.A. in Classics
Approved the proposed curricular changes to the MESM
Approved the addition of the Technology Management Program to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Information Technology and Society
Approved the addition of the Department of Global Studies to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Information Technology and Society
Approved the addition of the Comparative Literature Program to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in European Medieval Studies
Approved the proposed curricular changes to the M.A. and Ph.D. in Communication
Approved the proposed curricular changes to the M.S. and Ph.D. in Media Arts and Technology
Approved the proposed time-to-degree changes for the Ph.D. in Media Arts and Technology
Approved the addition of the Department of Religious Studies to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Writing Studies
Approved the proposed curricular changes to the Ph.D. Emphasis in Quantitative Social Sciences Methods
Approved the proposed curricular changes to the M.M. – String Emphasis and Woodwinds-Brass Emphasis in Music
Approved the proposed changes to the Ph.D. qualifying exams for Ethnomusicology in Music
Disapproved changes to the D.M.A. requirements in Music
Approved the addition of the Department of Music (except the D.M.A. degree) to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Cognitive Science

VI. Student Petitions
Graduate Council did not receive any student petitions for 2017-18.

VII. Local Business

Changes to the Program Review Panel Graduate Student Survey
Graduate Council reviewed proposed changes to the Program Review Panel Graduate Student Survey, which is included as part of the Program Review Panel departmental Data Notebook. GC did not support the proposed changes to the climate section of the graduate student survey, which would have reduced the expanded answers around climate. Members felt that it is important for departments to hear from graduate students what they are doing well in terms of climate, not just where they need to improve. GC recommended that survey takers be asked to explain why they ranked “climate” as they did for every item rather than only for those items that receive a low score. GC also recommended some language changes in the climate section of the survey, to use more
inclusive terms. The vote was unanimous to keep the graduate student survey climate section as it currently is along with some suggested changes.

Proposal to Allow the Appointment of Undergraduates and Non-Students as Teaching Assistants
Graduate Council discussed a proposal to Allow the Appointment of Undergraduates and Non-Students as Teaching Assistants. Members had a wide range of questions and concerns about the proposal which reflected an uneasiness about whether sufficiently strong safeguards and standards would be in place. Concerns included:

- Lack of information in the proposal about the overarching guidelines that undergraduate students serving as TAs would need to follow.
- What constitutes an “appropriate” training course? Who will ensure that the undergraduate TA is behaving ethically?
- In the appointment process, what criteria will be applied to ascertain whether the undergraduate TA is psychologically mature enough to handle the range of student issues and problematic situations that can occur in the classroom?
- What oversight will there be to ensure that the undergraduate TAs are not being exploited?
- Are the GPA and seniority requirements sufficiently strong?
- Which Academic Senate council or committee will be expected to review requests?
- Would appointments be limited to a total of three quarters in the student’s entire undergraduate career or would that limit only apply to each appointment?

Allowing non-students to serve as TAs received little support from the Council. There were concerns about the disparity between compensation, and limited information provided in the proposal explaining in what situations a non-student would be the most qualified candidate for a TA position. GC sent forward a memo outlining all of their concerns.

Revision of Divisional Regulation 25 in response to concerns raised by the Office for Civil Rights
Graduate Council reviewed a Resolution Agreement with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) concerning Contested Grade Regulation 25, together with the redlined version of the Student Grievance Procedure for Alleged Discrimination (Policy 4105). This review stemmed from a 2009 complaint submitted to OCR, and the subsequent issues OCR had with UCSB’s Student Grade Appeals and Student Grievance Procedure for Alleged Discrimination. UCSB agreed to modify its procedures to address the inadequacies. Graduate Council felt that the additional safeguards and policy transparency strengthened the procedures, and voted to endorse the changes.

Proposed Classroom Recording Policy
Graduate Council discussed a proposed Classroom Recording Policy. GC understood the rationale behind creating a policy to curtail unauthorized classroom recording, but had a number of questions and concerns they wished to see addressed. These included:
- What constitutes a “visual recording”? Does this pertain only to video, or would this apply to students taking pictures of slides as well?
- Where will this policy be housed? What will be the complaint procedures? How will this be enforced? What are the consequences for students found in violation of this policy?
- Is there any way this policy can be enforced for non-students? What will be the consequences for a non-student found in violation?
- Is there a way to have a disclaimer that students can electronically sign? While faculty may be able to give blanket recording approval, they cannot give consent for any of their students. Therefore, there is still the issue of every student who may appear in a recording needing to give their approval.
- The policy should be tied to the Student Code of Conduct.
- Instructors and teaching assistants are often recorded for instructional purposes. Recording for an instructional component should be allowed and written into the policy.
- There should be explicit language stating when recordings are appropriate, like for ADA compliance.

GC sent forward a memo outlining all of their concerns.

Nominations for Program Review Panel
Graduate Council submitted the names of fifteen Senate faculty members to the Committee on Committees for consideration for service on the Program Review Panel (PRP) beginning in 2018-19.

Clarifications of Master’s Project Committee Requirements
Graduate Council discussed a proposal to clarify the Master’s Degree Plan II – Project committees. The language in SB Regulations 300 and 305 regulating Plan II – Project committees was unclear, and had caused confusion within departments as to whether project committees must include two or three faculty members. The Regulations were updated in 2002 but no language was added to differentiate between the Plan II options, Comprehensive Examination and Project. Members felt that requiring departments with large programs who have been operating with two Senate faculty members per committee to add a third could place a large burden on them, and that they have been seemingly successfully operating with two member committees for quite some time. GC agreed that the language should be revised to clearly state that two or more faculty are required for Plan II – Project committees. Language was drafted which was unanimously approved by Graduate Council. The proposed revisions were submitted to the Faculty Legislature and approved at its meeting of June 7, 2018.

Expanded Time-to-Degree for Parenting Demands
Graduate Council discussed a proposal to revise the Graduate Division policy on Expanded Academic Time-to-Degree Provisions for Extraordinary Parenting Demands. The current policy was sent to the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on the Status of Women (CACSW), who suggested removing the wording “extraordinary” (as this has been confusing to some
students), clarifying who the policy is intended for, and extending the benefits to parents with children ages 5 or younger. Members were overall supportive of these changes to the policy, however, there was a request to make more clear how many years a graduate student can request this extension. GC also requested that the policy apply to all graduate students, not just doctoral students. The policy was revised to include these suggested changes, and GC then endorsed the revised proposal.

Proposed Divisional Bylaw 35.K on Conflict of Interest
Graduate Council reviewed the proposal to add section K to divisional Bylaw 35, regarding conflicts of interest. This would bring the divisional bylaw in line with recent systemwide conflict of interest language that was included in Bylaw 128. GC endorsed the amendment.

GRAD Code Course Review
Graduate Council completed a two-year review of the pilot GRAD course code, as stipulated in the subject code approval in 2016. In Winter and Spring 2016, Graduate Council reviewed a request from Graduate Division to create a new subject code (GRAD) for courses offered by the Graduate Division. GC approved the request as a pilot program that was to be evaluated at the end of a two-year period. One course, GRDIV 210: College and University Teaching – From Theory to Practice, has been offered once a year for the past two years. GC reviewed the course syllabi, ESCIs, and instructor CV and found them to be very good. Members suggested that if resources could be found, Humanities and STEM students should be separated into different sections of this course. A second course geared towards first-generation students has been discussed but not formally created. The 2016 approval memo also stated that all new courses proposed for the GRAD subject code would be considered by the full Graduate Council. GC agreed that this task should be delegated to the Chair of Graduate Council, who always has the authority to bring a course for full GC review.

Review of Interim WSCUC Report
Graduate Council was asked to review the Interim WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) report. GC noted that in the last section, “Identification of Other Changes and Issues Currently Facing the Institution”, there was no mention of graduate student issues. GC thought this would be the place to expand upon the University’s steps taken to enhance the graduate student experience and include the graduate student population in discussions about student body growth. GC recommended including information and data about graduate students, not just the undergraduate population. It was also unclear to GC whether or not postdoctorals fall under the rubric of the WSCUC.

VIII. Systemwide Business

Systemwide Review of Taskforce on the Negotiated Salary Trial Program
Graduate Council discussed the Systemwide Review of the Taskforce Report on the Negotiated Salary Trial Program (NSTP). Members expressed a number of concerns relevant to the program in general as well as its applicability to UCSB. These included
concerns about the possibility that continuation and expansion of the program could decrease Graduate Student Research support, heighten the disparity between STEM and non-STEM faculty, and encourage the growing privatization of the University of California system. Members also wondered whether participating in the NSTP might cause faculty to focus their research in areas primarily “where the money is” in order to ensure their salaries, and how the program would be implemented at UCSB if a decision to do so was made. Members suggested that if the trial program were continued, it would be wise to solicit input from graduate students in research groups of participating faculty. Members also stressed that safeguards should be included to limit the potential influence of outside entities on faculty and their research.

Procedures for Reported Senate and Non-Senate Faculty Violations of SVSH Policy
Graduate Council reviewed the Procedures for Senate and Non-Senate Faculty Violations of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Policy. Overall, GC felt that having allegations of faculty violations of sexual harassment and sexual violence be received by a specialist in the Title IX Office, instead of a faculty member who may not be as knowledgeable, was a positive change. GC did want clarified what safeguards are in place for non-represented non-Senate faculty. It was also not clear if the investigation by the Title IX Office includes a hearing, as it should. GC unanimously voted to endorse the proposed changes, but did not want to have UCOP procedures override the normal Academic Senate review process.

Graduate Council discussed the second systemwide review of the Proposed Revised APM 285-210-3-133-740-135-235, pertaining to the Lecturer with Security of Employment (LSOE) title series. GC felt that many of the issues from the first version were addressed, and supported the “loosening” of the non-teaching criteria that faculty in this series would be evaluated under. GC also supported the addition of “assistant” and “associate” into the proposed title series. GC was unclear on how the working title of “Teaching Professor” is meant to be used by the campus administration and faculty, but overall supported these APM revisions. In the first review, GC recommended that “service on thesis and dissertation committees or on student-faculty committees” be moved from 3) University and Public Service to 1) Teaching Excellence and Innovation, to match review criteria for ladder rank faculty. GC reiterated their recommendation for this change.

Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations
Graduate Council reviewed the proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations. GC considered the proposal as well as an analysis on the administrative processing of theses and dissertations provided by Graduate Division. Overall, GC felt that the proposed policy closely mirrors the current UCSB campus policy, and did not see any significant issues for graduate students. Members unanimously offered their support for the proposal as it was written.
Proposed Amendment of Senate Bylaw 128 – Conflict of Interest
Graduate Council reviewed the systemwide proposal to add section J to Bylaw 128, regarding conflicts of interest. GC voted to endorse this amendment.

Proposed Revisions to Appendix E: Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Student Adjudication Framework and Section 100.00: Policy on Student Conduct and Discipline
Graduate Council discussed the proposed revisions to Appendix E: Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Student Adjudication Framework and Section 100.00: Policy on Student Conduct and Discipline. Overall, members did not feel that they had enough expertise or background knowledge to provide adequate comments on these important policies. However, GC did find some language problematic. Members thought that not allowing a support person or advisor the opportunity to speak at all was odd and could potentially lead to procedural issues. This is separate from the University’s “right to exclude an advisor or support person who does not abide by these procedures”. However, when these two provisions are placed alongside one another, as they are now, the result can be excessively intimidating. GC also did not feel they had the experience to opine authoritatively on Section VI, dealing with the Appeal Process, but wondered whether the Appeal Body was sufficiently well-defined. GC did want to emphasize that systemwide and campus policies need to be aligned with one another; the student and faculty codes of conduct should be aligned as well.

IX. Committees
Over the past several years, Graduate Council has opted to handle the vast majority of its business in full Council sessions, rather than delegating issues to the subcommittees. The subcommittees are called to meet only on an ad hoc basis.

X. Carry Over Issues for 2018-19
- Graduate student mentorship
- Proposal to establish a Master of Environmental Data Science
- Reviewing Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) training
- Following up on the conditions for re-opening graduate admissions to the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies

Members
Bernard Kirtman, Chair, CCGA Rep Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry
Amr El Abbadi, Vice-Chair Professor, Computer Science
Hector Ceniceros Professor, Mathematics
Erin Dowdy Professor, Counseling, Clinical & School Psychology
Jean-Pierre Fouque Professor, Statistics & Applied Probability
Karen Gibson Associate Professor, Education
Michael Gordon Associate Professor, Chemical Engineering
Steven Gross Professor, Music
Richard Hecht  
Professor, Religious Studies  
Cynthia Kaplan (Winter/Spring)  
Professor, Political Science  
Heejung Kim  
Professor, Psychological & Brain Sciences  
Peter Kuhn  
Professor, Economics  
Hua Lee  
Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Andreas Ludwig  
Professor, Physics  
Karen Lunsford  
Associate Professor, Writing Program  
Carl Meinhart  
Professor, Mechanical Engineering  
Cynthia Skenazi  
Professor, French & Italian  
Jennifer Sorkin  
Associate Professor, History of Art & Architecture  
Ines Talamantez  
Associate Professor, Religious Studies  
Sarah Thebaud  
Associate Professor, Sociology  
Carol Genetti, Graduate Dean, Ex-Officio  
Chad Spensky, GSA Rep  
Christian Villasenor, Assistant Dean, Consultant (Fall)  
Robert Hamm, Assistant Dean, Consultant (Winter/Spring)  
Kelly Erland, Advisor