Graduate Council
Annual Report 2018-19

To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

Graduate Council met for thirteen regularly scheduled two-hour sessions during the 2018-19 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 2018-19 term, among them:

- Approving the establishment of a Master of Environmental Data Science degree in the Bren School.
- Crafting draft faculty graduate student mentor guidelines.
- Approving the allowance of departments to opt out of requiring the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) for graduate admissions.
- Commenting on various divisional and systemwide draft policy documents including: a proposed revision of Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment; review of proposed new APM 011; a proposal for a name change of the B.A. and B.S. in Statistical Science to Statistics and Data Science; a review and decision regarding cotutelle programs; a Student Conduct-Degree Clearance proposal; a proposal for Library Organizational Changes; and the UCSF - Dignity Health affiliation.

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 7/1/2018 and 6/30/2019, Council processed a total of 248 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 2018-19 term: Chemical Engineering, Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology, Media Arts and Technology Program, Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, and Writing Program.

Graduate Council recommended five departments and one program for Academic Program Review in 2020-21.

III. Proposals to Establish Programs, Emphases, Academic Units and Research Units
- Considered, sent questions back to the initiators, and ultimately approved the establishment of the Master of Environmental Data Science degree in the Bren School.
- Reviewed a proposal to establish an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Climate Science, and sent comments back to the initiators.
IV. **Name Changes**
Graduate Council did not receive any graduate program name change proposals for 2018-19.

V. **Changes to Existing Programs**
- Approved revisions to the Department of Materials M.S. Plan II degree.
- Approved course changes for the Teacher Education Program curriculum.
- Approved changes to the Program Learning Outcomes for the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry.
- Approved curricular changes for the Ph.D. in Economics.
- Approved a curricular course substitution for the Master of Technology Management.
- Approved a curricular change to the graduate programs in the Department of Religious Studies.
- Clarified the Department of Counseling, Clinical & School Psychology – Counseling Psychology Specialization Ph.D. requirements.
- Approved a grading option change to core courses in the Department of Classics Ph.D. program.
- Approved the proposed changes to the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Demography.
- Approved Program Learning Outcomes for the graduate programs in Media Arts and Technology.
- Approved the addition of the Comparative Literature Program to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Cognitive Science.
- Approved the proposed curricular changes to the Department of Anthropology – Archaeology M.A. comprehensive examination.
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the Department of Linguistics graduate programs.
- Approved the proposed curricular changes to the Department of Counseling, Clinical and School Psychology – Counseling Psychology Ph.D. Specialization.
- Approved the proposed curricular changes to M.A. in History.
- Approved the proposed curricular changes to Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering.
- Approved the proposed changes to the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Neuroengineering.
- Approved the proposed curricular changes to the Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Dynamical Neuroscience.
- Approved proposed changes to the requirements of the Master of Education degree.
- Approved Program Learning Outcomes for the Ph.D. program in Global Studies.
- Approved the addition of the Department of Music – Ethnomusicology to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Global Studies.
- Approved the proposed curricular changes to the graduate programs in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies.
- Approved changes to the Department of Feminist Studies qualifying examinations.
- Approved the proposed changes to the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Bioengineering.

VI. **Student Petitions**
Graduate Council did not receive any student petitions for 2018-19.

VII. **Local Business**

**GRAD Course Code**
Graduate Council reviewed a proposal from the Graduate Division to continue to use the 200-level designation, where appropriate, for courses offered under the GRAD course code designation. GRAD courses were originally approved to be offered as 500-level, however, the one course offered so far was
designated GRAD 210. The course has been successful and GC agreed that GRAD courses should continue to be offered as 200-level.

**OISS Proposal to Implement Hard Registration Blocks to Enforce Compliance with the U.S. Federal Registrar and Homeland Security**

Graduate Council discussed a proposal from the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) to allow use of registration hard blocks for international students who do not respond to inquiries for required information. OISS is mandated by the Department of Homeland Security to enter certain criteria into the Student and Exchange Visitor System (SEVIS) database. Local addresses and confirmation of full-time enrollment must be verified within a 30-day deadline or students are considered “out-of-status”. If this occurs, students must be reinstated though the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services. Members discussed the implications of using a hard block, but ultimately felt that it would be an effective tool to get students to comply with federally mandated law and voted unanimously to endorse the proposal.

**OA2020 – Letter from UCSB Librarian Kristin Antelman**

Graduate Council discussed a letter from UCSB Krisin Antelman regarding the Max Plank Library OA2020 international initiative towards open access. Six UC campuses had already signed the OA2020 Expression of Interest, and Librarian Antelman and the Committee on Library, Information and Instructional Resources was asking for UCSB to give its support. GC voted unanimously to endorse the proposal.

**Updates to the University Formatting Requirements for Thesis/Dissertation/DMA Supporting Documents**

Graduate Council reviewed a proposal from Graduate Division for updates to the *Guide to Formatting & Filing Theses and Dissertations*. Proposed changes would allow students to use their legal first name or preferred first name; middle initial in lieu of middle name; and would remove the requirement for Music Compositions that compositions have a different pagination. GC voted unanimously to approve these changes.

**Supercourse Challenges and Recommendations**

Graduate Council reviewed the *Supercourse Challenges and Recommendations* documents. Members agreed that supercourses are mainly used at the undergraduate level, and more information needs to be provided about how any changes would affect graduate courses. A majority of the issues seem to stem from miscommunication and staff turnover/lack of training. GC decided not to opine on the issue.

**Name Change of the B.A. and B.S. Statistical Science to Statistics and Data Science**

Graduate Council discussed the proposal for the name change of the B.A. and B.S. in Statistical Science to Statistics and Data Science. Members raised questions about the comprehensiveness of the proposal as well as its integration and relationship with other data science initiatives on campus. Other questions pertained to how this major will differ from the potential future undergraduate major in Data Science, and if there will be any proposed changes to graduate degree names. Some members were quite supportive and applauded the initiative taken by the department to address an important area of study and to provide the necessary courses that many students are demanding. GC sent forward a memo with their questions and concerns.

**Revision of Divisional Regulation 25 in response to concerns raised by the Office for Civil Rights**

Graduate Council discussed the revised changes to Divisional Regulation 25 (Appendix V) pertaining to student grade appeals. While members approved of the changes, they wished to see a flow chart.
created that outlines the grade appeal process in order for students to have better guidance on how to proceed with the various steps outlined in the policy. A memo with this suggestion was sent forward.

Request for Department Name Change in the Division of Student Affairs – Office of Judicial Affairs
Graduate Council reviewed the proposal from the Office of Judicial Affairs, requesting a name change to the Office of Student Conduct. This would bring the office’s name in line with its sister departments at most other UC campuses. GC voted unanimously to endorse this proposal.

Request to Allow Departments to Opt Out of the GRE for Graduate Admissions
Graduate Council reviewed a proposal from Graduate Division to allow departments to opt out of requiring the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) for graduate admissions. The GRE is currently required for all graduate programs at UCSB except the Master of Fine Arts and some 5-year programs. Graduate Division has received requests for individual exceptions to the GRE requirement, which have all been denied.

GC discussed the data provided regarding potential bias in the GRE, and that many colleges and universities (including seven of the UC campuses) no longer require the test. Members unanimously voted to allow departments to determine if they want to opt out of requiring the GRE, beginning with the 2020 admissions cycle.

Request for Review of Cotutelle Programs
Graduate Council discussed a request from Graduate Division to review cotutelle programs. These are ad hoc agreements between two universities (one being international) and can take the form of joint degrees or dual degrees. Graduate Division has received requests from interested students and faculty, but there is no UC-wide policy allowing or disallowing cotutelles, and UCSB does not have a local policy.

GC discussed three options and voted on each one: to allow students to enter into cotutelle agreements leading to joint degrees; to allow students to enter into cotutelle agreements leading to dual degrees; or to disallow all cotutelle agreements. Members unanimously voted to disallow all cotutelle programs.

Draft UCSB Green Labs Action Plan V6
Graduate Council reviewed the draft UCSB Green Labs Action Plan document. Members had a variety of questions and comments they sent forward, including the goal of the report, where the funding for projects would come from, what incentives are for faculty and students to participate in programs, and how these projects interact with UCSB’s deferred maintenance obligations.

Student Conduct-Degree Clearance Proposal
Graduate Council discussed the proposal to require that students be in compliance with the Student Code of Conduct in order to have their degree conferred. Members were concerned that students would now be “guilty until proven innocent”, and if withholding a degree from a student who has not been found guilty of any student conduct violation is the most appropriate course of action. The proposal was also not very precise and discussed various issues that did not seem directly pertinent to the issue at hand. GC sent forward a memo with their concerns and recommended a proposal with more careful presentation and wording.

Nominations for Program Review Panel
Graduate Council submitted the names of thirteen Senate faculty members to the Committee on Committees for consideration for service on the Program Review Panel (PRP) beginning in 2019-20.
**Library Organizational Changes**
Graduate Council reviewed a summary of proposed organizational changes to the UCSB Library, and met with Library Kristin Antelman. Members had strong reservations about some aspects of the reorganization, especially the restructuring of some of the subject librarian’s duties. Members also posed concerns around loss of resources for faculty and graduate students, how non-critical collections will be maintained, the seeming preference to fund digital materials over monographs, and a lack of standing orders for departments. GC was most troubled by the fact that department consultation did not take place. Members agreed to send forward a memorandum with their main concerns, as well as a statement that consultation with departments is absolutely required before significant reorganization can take place.

**Draft Electronic Communication Policy (ECP)**
Graduate Council reviewed the draft Electronic Communication Policy. Section III: F: 1: b states that if faculty electronic communications are requested to be accessed without consent, the Executive Vice Chancellor will “obtain the written advice of the Academic Senate” prior to approving the request. GC asked to clarify who in the Academic Senate is to be consulted and is to provide written consent.

**Faculty Graduate Student Mentoring Guidelines**
In February, GC began a discussion about faculty mentoring guidelines. The three-member subcommittee led a discussion about the draft mentoring document they compiled. They reviewed other campuses’ adopted guidelines and some UCSB documents, and decided to adapt UC Berkeley’s guidelines. The subcommittee’s goal was a document of best practices, not policy.

Over the next meetings, GC had in-depth discussions about the mentoring guidelines and the role of faculty mentoring in general. Areas of discussion included:
- Including points about respecting the time and culture of each student and addressing barriers to student learning.
- The role mentors have in directing students to appropriate resources.
- The responsibilities that students have as mentees, but also the asymmetric relationship between mentors and mentees.
- Poor mentor-mentee matches and current dissatisfaction of many graduate students with their mentoring experience.
- Mentoring is evolving, and there are mentoring differences between disciplines.

Chair El Abbadi and Vice Chair Lunsford met with Senate Chair Bohn to discuss the draft graduate mentoring guidelines. Chair Bohn suggested structuring the document so that the more “common sense” ground rules for mentoring were at the beginning of the document, and removing strong language to avoid the document being seen as rules faculty need to follow. The subcommittee took all feedback into account and prepared a final draft in April.

GC then discussed how they could distribute the guidelines for a preliminary review. The document was sent to the Graduate Student Association Executive Committee for feedback. The GSA Executives had many concerns, and want a document that is written jointly between Graduate Council and the GSA. However, these are supposed to be “best practices” written by faculty for faculty. GSA will work on their own student-centered mentoring document.
GC did not have enough time at the end of the academic year to distribute the guidelines to other Senate councils and committees, or department chairs. The 2019-20 Graduate Council will need to determine how to move forward.

VIII. Systemwide Business

Current State Assessment Report for Systemwide Mexico Entities
Graduate Council discussed the Current State Assessment Report for Systemwide Mexico Entities, regarding UC Mexus, the UC-Mexico Initiative, and Casa de California. While GC understood some of the reasoning behind the proposed merger, elimination of redundancies, and the budgetary realities, members had concerns around reduced funding for graduate students, how the academic program changes would impact graduate students and faculty, reasons why some of those interviewed opposed the proposal, and that there was no discussion about reaching out to successful graduates who participated in UC Mexus. GC sent forward a memo with their comments.

Proposed Revision of Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment
Graduate Council discussed the Proposed Revision of Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment. Graduate Council agreed to send along comments pertaining to the following concerns:

- It was not clear in what capacity graduate students must act as mandated reporters. The language in II-7: Responsible Employee should be much more specific regarding when graduate students are “acting in their capacities as employees”.
- Concern that the Title IX Officer can proceed with an investigation even if a Complainant requests that no Formal Investigation take place.
- Complainants should receive full and complete disclosure of final resolution outcomes.
- There was a lack of specificity regarding when one must notify Title IX as Responsible Employee, and if information received second or third hand must be reported.

Open Access Policy for Theses and Dissertations – second round review
Graduate Council reviewed the revised Open Access Policy for Theses and Dissertations. GC supported the proposal in its first round review and did not have comments; other campuses had more concerns. Members found the proposal still well aligned with current UCSB practice and supported the revisions.

Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to Bylaw 336
Graduate Council discussed the proposed changes to Bylaw 336, concerning Privilege and Tenure procedures. Members endorsed tightening the timeline, and applying these revisions to all disciplinary cases. GC sent forward a memo of endorsement.

UC Center Sacramento – State Assessment Report
Graduate Council discussed the UC Center Sacramento – State Assessment Report. Since the program is almost exclusively focused on undergraduate students, members suggested encouraging the expansion of the graduate program, as long as funding could be found. Members also suggested that the UC Center Sacramento could offer expanded knowledge and professional networks for graduate students working in public policy fields. These comments were sent forward in a memorandum.

Systemwide Review of Proposed New APM 011, Academic Freedom, Protection of Professional Standards, and Responsibilities of Non-Faculty Academic Appointees
Graduate Council discussed the proposed new APM 011, which would cover academic freedom and protections for non-faculty academic appointees. Overall, members were supportive of the new APM section. However, the impact on graduate students was not well explained. GC sent forward a
memorandum suggesting further clarification about how APM 011 would affect graduate students when they are appointed into one of these non-faculty academic appointments.

**Dignity Health**

Graduate Council discussed, over multiple meetings, the proposed expanded affiliation between UC San Francisco and Dignity Health. There was systemwide debate about whether this affiliation contradicted the mission of UC. Dignity Health, which are Catholic affiliated hospitals, have restrictions on certain types of medical procedures (birth control, abortion, end-of-life care, treatment of LGBTQ individuals). There was also the concern about whether Academic Council should interfere with UCSF autonomy. GC sent Chair Bohn a memorandum voicing its deep concern regarding the ethical implications of an affiliation of this nature. GC was pleased to learn that UC San Francisco decided to not expand their relationship with Dignity Health.

**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 2019-20**

- Faculty graduate student mentorship guidelines.
- Following up on the re-opening of graduate admissions for the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies.
- Reviewing a revised proposal to establish an Interdisciplinary PhD Emphasis in Climate Science.

**Members**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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Raphael Chinchilla, GSA Rep
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Robert Hamm, Assistant Dean, Consultant
Kelly Erland Rivera, Advisor

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