To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

Graduate Council met for twelve regularly scheduled two-hour sessions during the 2014-15 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 2014-15 term, among them:

- Doctoral Student Support Proposals and Recommendations
- Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition (NRST)
- Proposed Revised Presidential Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence
- Open Access Policy

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 7/1/2014 and 6/30/2015, Council processed a total of 278 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 Reviews of the following departments and programs during the 2014-15 term: Biomolecular Science and Engineering, Psychological and Brain Sciences, Religious Studies, and Theater and Dance. Graduate Council recommended seven departments for Academic Program Review in 2016-17.

Graduate Council also commented on the review of the Earth Research Institute (ERI).

III. Name Changes
- Endorsed the proposed name change of the Department of Germanic, Slavic, and Semitic Studies to the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies
- Endorsed the proposed name and status change of the Global and International Studies Program to the Department of Global Studies, and approved the proposed name change of the M.A. in Global and International Studies to the M.A. in Global Studies
- Approved the proposed name change of the M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychology to the M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychological and Brain Sciences

IV. Proposals to Discontinue or Disestablish Programs, Emphases, Academic Units, Research Units, and International Agreements
- Approved the proposal to discontinue the Joint Degree Program leading to the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

V. Changes to Existing Programs

- Approved the proposed changes to the advancement to candidacy deadline for the Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree program requirements for the Ph.D. in Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology – School Psychology Specialization
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree program requirements for the Master of Environmental Science and Management
- Approved the proposed changes to the doctoral committee requirements for the Department of Geography
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the Master of Technology Management
- Approved the proposed changes to the graduate degree programs in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies
- Approved the proposal from the Comparative Literature Program to join the Ph.D. Emphasis in Applied Linguistics
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the Ph.D. in Linguistics
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in History of Art and Architecture
- Approved the proposed changes to the graduate degrees in the Department of Music
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree program requirements for the Ph.D. in Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology – Clinical Psychology and Counseling Psychology Specializations
- Approved the proposed changes to time-to-advancement and time-to-degree for the Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Approved the proposal from the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies to join the Ph.D. Emphasis in Environment and Society
- Approved the proposed changes to the time-to-degree for the Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Management
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychology

VI. Student Petitions

The Graduate Council received one request for the appeal of a grade, which was under consideration at the time the annual report was written.

VII. Local Issues

Graduate Division – Proposals for the Restructuring of Graduate Student Support

Graduate Council considered three proposals from Graduate Dean Genetti regarding the restructuring of graduate student support. Brief comments are included on each proposal, below.
Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition (NRST)
The Graduate Council carefully considered the proposal to address NRST for international doctoral and Master of Fine Arts students at UCSB. Essentially, the proposal aimed to establish a designated fund to pay the NRST for these students between year two and advancement to candidacy, whereby all monies collected would then be returned to the fund in a self-sustaining cycle. Many members expressed, from a departmental perspective, that the need to address NRST was of paramount importance. The effects of NRST on UCSB doctoral programs are deleterious and inequitable, diminishing program competitiveness, creating bias in admissions decisions, and causing undue pressure on international students to advance to candidacy more quickly than their peers. Members noted that the proposed solution would address a long-standing problem, and the anticipated benefits to departments and graduate students would be well-worth the short-term investment required of the campus. The Council unanimously endorsed Dean Genetti’s proposal. The new International Doctoral Recruitment Fellowship (IDRF) was announced to the campus on January 13, 2015.

Regents Fellowships in the Disciplines
GC discussed the second proposal to provide more flexibility for departments in their annual recruitment efforts by allocating one or two Regents Fellowships to each department. Each fellowship would provide one year of support, excluding NRST. Departments would be responsible for crafting a multi-year recruitment package to accompany the fellowship. If a student declined the Department’s offer, the fellowship may be offered to another student, or be rolled over to the following year. The Council unanimously endorsed Dean Genetti’s proposal, and the fellowship program was implemented for the 2014-15 admissions season.

Block Grant
The Council discussed the third proposal to reconfigure the formula for block grant allocation, with the aim of establishing a model that is more transparent and stable. The proposed formula would take into account enrollment (based on a three-year average of P1, P2, and Master’s students), the number of students completing the doctorate within time-to-degree, and the number of students not funded by employment. The implementation plan would ensure that no department loses block grant funding, and that if any department stands to substantially gain, the increase is phased in over three years. Departments that can demonstrate substantial involvement in efforts related to promoting student diversity would receive a supplement to their allocation. In addition, each divisional, college, or school dean would also be provided with their own block grant allocation to assign to departments according to their strategic priorities. The Council unanimously endorsed Dean Genetti’s proposal and the changes to the block grant program were implemented for 2015-16.

Global Engagement Website and Resources

Due to a significant increase in the number of requests for the establishment of collaboration and exchange agreements between UCSB and foreign institutions, a campus Task Force on Global Engagement was called together to discuss a formal process for the development, review, approval, and tracking of international agreements.

Following Task Force discussions, the campus developed a web site that would provide the necessary information for individuals to negotiate the process of establishing international agreements. [https://globalengagement.ucsb.edu/](https://globalengagement.ucsb.edu/)
Graduate Council unanimously endorsed the overall aim of the portal, and the guidelines for the international agreement development process. During the discussion, members were informed that several departments have had difficulty navigating security restrictions imposed on foreign students. The Council inquired, in their response to the proposed portal and guidelines, whether the implications of these restrictions on international agreements have been considered, and if the portal might benefit from additional terms or information in this area.

Professional Equivalency: Evaluating Instructors without Advanced Degrees

The GC Chair is charged with reviewing requests for non-Senate faculty to serve as the instructor of graduate courses. In response to one such request, GC discussed the difficulty of evaluating the qualifications of potential instructors who do not possess an advanced degree. The Council agreed that in rare cases where the nominee does not hold a terminal degree, the department must provide additional justification as to how the individual’s qualifications are appropriately suited for the course in question. The department must also discuss the nominee’s professional training, skills, and expertise, and how these are evaluated in the context of the field. The Policy on Non-Senate Faculty and Graduate Instruction was updated to reflect the requested clarifications.

EAP Reciprocity Students – Transfer Units and Transcript Issues

Graduate Council considered a request from the Graduate Division to clarify the transfer of unit policy for Education Abroad Program (EAP) reciprocity students. The policy language, as written, was too broad and non-specific. The language was updated to clarify that courses applied toward a previously awarded degree are not eligible for transfer and that a grade of B or better would be required. The Council unanimously approved the proposed changes and the Graduate Division website was revised to reflect the updated policy language.

Policy and Procedures for Use of the Campus Waitlist System

Graduate Council discussed a request from the Undergraduate Council to review and comment on the proposed Policy and Procedures for Use of the Campus Waitlist System. GC unanimously endorsed the proposed policy and recommended that the Undergraduate Council also consult with the Graduate Council when substantive changes to the policy are proposed, due to possible implications for teaching associates and teaching assistants.

Change in Procedure for UCSB Graduate Students Seeking to Enter a UCSB Ph.D. Program

The Graduate Division consulted with the Graduate Council regarding a proposed change in procedure for UCSB graduate students seeking to enter a UCSB doctoral program (e.g. a student in a terminal Master’s program who wishes to enter a Ph.D. program, or a Ph.D. student who would like to change academic programs). The aim of the change is to align the review of UCSB students with the review of other applicants during the regular admissions process, using the Online Application. The new procedure would qualify students for recruitment funding and allow for the assignment of a new start quarter, if appropriate. GC agreed that the proposal was sound and recommended that the Graduate Division move toward implementing the changes.

Proposed Changes to the Doctoral Student Travel Grants

The Academic Senate’s Doctoral Student Travel Grant awards travel funds to graduate students who have been invited or selected to present a paper, present research, perform or exhibit at a
major professional conference or meeting. Applicants must be doctoral students who are advanced to candidacy, or master of fine arts (M.F.A.) students who are in their second year of study and in candidacy prior to travel. Students are eligible to receive one Doctoral Student Travel Grant during their graduate career at UCSB. Funds are provided for the actual cost of airline ticket or equivalent ground transportation to and from the conference or meeting, up to, but not to exceed the specified maximum for each geographic location.

Per the terms of the grant, students were only permitted to request reimbursement for airfare and shared ground transportation. Many students expressed frustration that the grant covered only transportation, particularly when their transportation was inexpensive and the remainder of the grant could not be used for other expenses. In years past, the budget for the Doctoral Student Travel Grant Program was quite limited. The Academic Senate recently received a generous increase from Chancellor Yang, which made it possible to consider improvements to the program.

The proposed changes to the grant would allow grant recipients to submit reimbursement requests for airfare, ground transportation, hotel expenses, and meal costs. After some discussion, GC expressed support for the proposed changes and recommended that students also be permitted to apply conference registration fees toward the grant.

The Academic Senate implemented the proposed changes to the Doctoral Student Travel Grant for 2015-16, which will benefit graduate students by allowing more flexibility in the use of grant funding.

VIII. Systemwide Business

Doctoral Student Support Proposals and Recommendations

The All-UC Doctoral Student Support Conference was held in April 2014 at UC Irvine to gather key faculty and administrators and facilitate the development of proposals in the areas of Non-Residential Supplemental Tuition (NRST), competitiveness in net stipends, professional development and partnerships, and competitiveness in diversity and student recruitment. Following the conference, a Steering Committee was formed to further develop the proposals, which were then presented for Systemwide review and comment.

In general, the Council appreciated the positive steps being taken toward more robust support for doctoral students. In its discussion of the specifics of each proposal, the GC did express some concerns, which are briefly noted below by area.

Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition
GC strongly supported the effort to alleviate the burden of NRST on international graduate students, but also recognized that it may be politically unwise for the University of California to propose an across the board waiver of Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition (NRST) while lobbying state officials for an increase in the UC budget. As such, the Council recommended that the UC not pursue a Systemwide NRST proposal at this time.

GC instead supported the option of encouraging campuses to engage in local solutions, and fully endorsed the campus NRST proposal being pursued by Graduate Dean Genetti.

Net Stipend Competitiveness and Multi-Year Offers
GC recognized the pressing need for competitive stipends, multi-year offers, and transparent
offer letters. While GC agreed with the steering committee’s recommendations in principle, the Council had concerns about the practicalities of implementing each recommendation and advised that the University consider some of the challenges of doing so. In order to embolden departments to offer attractive multi-year support packages, a safety net would be necessary for departments to feel comfortable making commitments in light of uncertainties of grants and TAships. GC felt that the establishment and terms of such safety nets would need to be articulated. Packages should take into account cost of living and be competitive in the field while maintaining as much equity across departments as possible.

Professional Development
GC felt strongly that the professional development portal proposal needed more research and fine-tuning before it could proceed. GC recommended that faculty, graduate students, Graduate Division staff, and Career Services staff work together to undertake a more detailed study of professional development needs for graduate students, existing resources, and campus best practices in order to identify specific areas that would be strengthened by the development of a portal. Furthermore, GC noted that the intended mission and contents of the portal should be further refined before the University invests in this project.

Diversity Proposals
GC enthusiastically supported the diversity proposals, but emphasized the need for additional resources in this area. GC felt that absent additional support, the proposals had the potential to become unfunded mandates.

Senate Regulation (SR) 682 – Residence and Length of Study
The Council discussed the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) proposal to change Senate Regulation (SR) 682 to allow individual graduate divisions to decide the timeframe between advancement to candidacy and the conferral of the degree. GC did not foresee any potential for negative impacts on graduate students as a result of the changes, and voiced no objections to the revisions as written.

Policy on Open Access – Non-Senate Authors
Graduate Council considered the proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Non-Senate Authors. GC identified a number of benefits for graduate students associated with the proposed policy, and could not foresee any potential for negative impacts. GC recommended that the proposed policy, as well as the policy for Academic Senate authors, include some language on research articles with multiple authors especially when they include scholars from outside the UC system.

Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence – Proposed Revised Presidential Policy
GC discussed the proposed revised Presidential Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence. The aims of the new policy were to bring the University into compliance with the requirements of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and to clarify and simplify the policy language, among others. The Council unanimously endorsed the revised policy.

UC Policy on Copyright and Fair Use
Graduate Council considered the draft revised UC Policy on Copyright and Fair Use. The policy was revised in response to comments from Systemwide reviewing agencies in academic year
University Committee on International Education – Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaw 182

Graduate Council discussed the proposed changes to Senate Bylaw 182. The University Committee on International Education (UCIE) developed the proposed changes to its charge in order to better reflect the expansion of the University’s international activities, such as the increase in the number of international students and the increase of MOUs with foreign institutions.

GC expressed significant concerns about the proposed language and was unable to endorse the amendments as written. The Council opted to send forward a memorandum reflecting the group’s discussion with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention. Overall, GC noted that a number of the amendments were too non-specific and lacked an accompanying explanation of how the changes would affect UCIE’s work on a practical level. There was some concern that the revisions may change reporting requirements for individual faculty engaged in international research, or faculty whose students go abroad for research. Furthermore, GC noted that the expansion of UCIE’s charge has the potential for considerable overlap with the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs, the University Committee on Educational Policy, and the University Committee on Research Policy. GC recommended the addition of language suggesting the need for liaison with CCGA, UCEP, and UCORP regarding issues that bridge their respective charges.

Equity for Access to University Facilities or Services – Pilot Draft Guidelines

Graduate Council discussed the proposed guidelines from the Office of the President for a pilot program that would allow UC to accept equity from companies in return for access to facilities and services related to incubators and accelerators. GC acknowledged the value of collaborating with incubators and accelerators, and voiced support for furthering initiatives that stem from graduate student research.

The Council also expressed several areas of concern or hesitation. Members felt strongly that the University should be mindful of potential hazards of equity as opposed to cash exchange. Members noted the possibility that the University may enter into agreements with businesses that participate in unforeseen ethical misconduct in the future, or do not continue to meet the University’s standards of social responsibility and respect for the public good.

The Council agreed that any kind of support paid to graduate students should not be tied to speculative futures. Members also strongly emphasized that University activities should have priority access to campus space. GC agreed to send forward a memorandum to Chair Bhavnani reflecting the Council's discussion, by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

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. Consultations with the Administration
XI. Carry Over Issues for 2015-16

- Graduate Student Support

Members:

Tania Israel, Chair
Kathleen Foltz, Vice-Chair
Paul Amar
Sarah Anderson
Paul Berkowitz
Julie Bianchini
Maurizia Boscagli
Cynthia Brown
Andrew Carter
Gary Charness
Xianzhe Dai
Oliver Deschenes
Sabine Frühstück
Chen Ji
Chandra Krintz
Juan Pablo Lupi
Igor Mezic
Robin Nabi
Geoffrey Raymond
Dar Roberts
Mayfair Yang
Tao Yang
Carol Genetti, Graduate Dean, Ex-Officio
Alexander Pucher, Graduate Students Association (GSA) Representative
Christian Villaseñor, Assistant Dean, Consultant
Shasta Delp, Advisor