To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

Graduate Council met for fourteen regularly scheduled two-hour sessions during the 2015-16 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 2015-16 term, among them:

- Proposal to Establish a Ph.D. in Technology Management
- Proposal to Establish an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Demography
- Proposal to Establish an Emphasis in Chemical Education within the existing M.A. in Chemistry
- Establishment of Santa Barbara Regulation 600 on the award of Posthumous Graduate Degrees

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 7/1/2015 and 6/30/2016, Council processed a total of 279 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 2015-16 term: Electrical and Computer Engineering, Geography, History of Art and Architecture, Political Science, and Spanish and Portuguese. The Council also completed its participation in the review of the Indepartmental Graduate Program in Biomolecular Science and Engineering, which was carried over from 2014-15.

Graduate Council recommended four departments for Academic Program Review in 2017-18.

III. Proposals to Establish Programs, Emphases, Academic Units, and Research Units

- Approved the proposal to establish an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Demography
- Approved the proposal to establish an Emphasis in Chemical Education within the existing M.A. in Chemistry
- Approved the proposal from the Technology Management Program (TMP) to establish a Ph.D. in Technology Management
IV. **Name Changes**

- Approved the proposed name change for the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in "Technology and Society" to that of "Information Technology and Society"

V. **Changes to Existing Programs**

- Endorsed the proposed transfer of the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies from the Department of Global Studies to the Institute for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research (ISBER)
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the M.Ed. in Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology, School Psychology Specialization
- Approved a suspension of admissions to the terminal M.A. in Economics, at the request of the Department of Economics
- Approved the proposed revisions to the program learning outcomes for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology
- Approved the addition of the Comparative Literature Program to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Writing Studies
- Approved the addition of the Department of Linguistics to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Translation Studies
- Approved the proposed changes to time-to-degree for the Ph.D. in Computer Science
- Approved the addition of the Department of Linguistics to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Black Studies
- Approved the addition of the Department of Feminist Studies to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Black Studies
- Approved the addition of Linguistics to the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Information Technology and Society
- Approved the proposed curricular changes for the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Information Technology and Society
- Approved the request for a new subject code (GRAD) for courses offered by the Graduate Division
- Approved a course change in the Teacher Education Program (TEP)
- Endorsed the proposed changes in status and management of the Institute for Terahertz Science and Technology (ITST)
- Approved the proposed curricular changes for the History of Science field within the M.A. and Ph.D. in History
- Approved the addition of the Department of Feminist Studies to the participating units of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Emphasis in Writing Studies
- Approved the proposed changes to the degree requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Education
- Approved the addition of the Department of Linguistics to the participating units of the Interdepartmental Ph.D. Emphasis in Environment and Society
- Approved the addition of the Department of Feminist Studies to the participating units of the Interdepartmental Ph.D. Emphasis in Environment and Society
- Approved the proposed changes to the program learning outcomes (PLOs) for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Education

VI. **Student Petitions**
The Graduate Council received one request for the appeal of a grade, which was denied. The Council also received two requests from departments regarding the award of posthumous degrees for their students, which were both approved.

VII. Local Issues

Proposed Regulation for Posthumous Graduate Degrees
Graduate Council considered a proposal from the Graduate Division to establish a divisional regulation pertaining to the award of posthumous degrees. The proposed regulation would specify the necessary requirements for the award of a doctoral degree, master's degree, or certificate of progress. The Council recommended that language be added to note that the dissertation committee, in conjunction with the director of graduate studies, would verify that the requirements were met. Members also suggested that the Graduate Division draft a set of guidelines to advise departments on the procedures for requesting a posthumous graduate degree. Graduate Council unanimously approved the proposed regulation, and Santa Barbara Regulation (SBR) 600 was approved by the Faculty Legislature at its meeting of January 28, 2016.

Doctoral Residency Proposal
Graduate Council considered a proposal from the Graduate Division to allow residency at the Master's level to count toward the three-quarter residency requirement for advancement to doctoral candidacy. Students in a terminal Master's program, who apply to a doctoral program in the same department, must currently wait one year to advance to candidacy even if they are academically prepared to advance. This creates an artificial barrier to student progress. GC voted unanimously to approve the proposed policy change, which was subsequently implemented by the Graduate Division.

Red Binder Changes
Graduate Council considered a proposal from Academic Personnel for changes to the Red Binder, concentrating primarily on the language regarding Teaching Associates. The Council recommended a number of edits to the proposed language, and ultimately voted unanimously to endorse the changes.

Nominations for Program Review Panel 2016-17
Graduate Council submitted the names of eleven Senate faculty members to the Committee on Committees for consideration for service on the Program Review Panel (PRP) beginning in 2016-17.

Thesis Co-Authorship and Previously Published Material
Graduate Council discussed the issue of co-authored and previously published dissertation chapters. The Council acknowledged that policy and practice related to these issues vary widely across the disciplines, and agreed that it would be helpful to establish guiding language for the campus. An ad hoc committee was convened to draft language, which was presented to the Council and approved following minor modifications. The final language is included, below:

The thesis, dissertation, or equivalent (hereafter called the capstone) may include chapters or other segments that involve co-authored work, if allowed by the department and appropriate for the discipline. In cases of coauthorship, the student’s capstone committee’s approval will be taken as certification that the student’s individual contributions are sufficient for the capstone requirement. The acknowledgements or
introductory portion of the capstone should clearly detail the role and contributions of the student in coauthored works.

Published, accepted, or in preparation for publication works are included in this policy. To the extent possible, graduate programs should offer guidance about the expectations for coauthorship or single authorship in formal policies. Whenever conflicts arise over collaborative authorships, Graduate Council urges the parties involved to resolve their conflict on the basis of professional ethics, integrity and fair play.

A capstone is expected to conform to appropriate copyright laws. If portions have already been published or presented in copyrighted form, the student must obtain the appropriate permissions from the copyright holder(s). Previously published material must be acknowledged appropriately, as established by a discipline or by the original publication agreement. Published material included in the capstone should be substantially the product of the student’s period of study at UCSB; the student’s capstone committee’s approval will be taken as certification of this requirement.

The acknowledgements portion of the capstone should include acknowledgement of funding sources.

GC agreed that it would be beneficial for individual departments to develop more specific statements in accordance with the norms of the discipline.

VIII. Systemwide Business

Proposed Presidential Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence

Graduate Council discussed the Proposed Revised Presidential Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence. The Council voted unanimously to endorse the updated policy, but called attention to several issues in its response. GC emphasized the need for the campus to educate graduate students and their departments about the reporting requirements for graduate student employees (GSEs). GC recommended that information regarding reporting requirements should be added to the mandatory training for GSEs, and that departments be encouraged to add language to their graduate handbooks. Furthermore, GC stated that graduate student employees should be informed of the campus resources they can access when concerned about handling complaints from undergraduate students. Finally, in relation to the wider graduate student population, GC expressed support for the on-line tools under development that link on-line training/certification to registration.

Retirement Options Task Force Report

GC was asked to consider the Retirement Options Task Force Report. Above all, the Council expressed serious concern that the new pension tier was negotiated without Academic Senate consultation, and that the condensed review period did not allow for in-depth analysis or careful consideration.

GC acknowledged the many challenges and constraints faced by the Task Force in its development of the proposed program. However, the Council found it difficult to evaluate the recommended alternatives based on the information provided in the report. Overall, it was clear to the members that implementation of the new tier would mean a significant reduction in retirement benefits for future employees. GC felt that given the number of variables
with the potential to affect the plans, insufficient discussion regarding alternatives and
cost savings, and a lack of comparative analysis with competitor institutions, there was
considerable uncertainty about how the plans would perform and what the implications
would be for the UC as a whole. The Council was also unclear about how the UC would track
the impact of the proposed changes.

GC strongly recommended that the UC examine the proposed alternatives holistically, in
terms of total remuneration. The Council emphasized that the UC has already faced
significant challenges in restoring and maintaining competitiveness in faculty salaries.
Salaries in the system lag behind the market in many fields, and as such, UC retirement
benefits have been an essential tool in recruitment and retention. GC agreed that with
the implementation of the 2016 UCRP tier, it would only become more difficult for the UC to
recruit and retain an excellent faculty. The Council stated that if UC’s competitiveness
deteriorates, extramural funding and graduate student recruitment may also be adversely
impacted. UC graduate student recruitment packages are recognized as non-competitive
relative to our peers, making high quality faculty all the more important for attracting the
best graduate students.

GC also expressed concern about how the details of the budget agreement may pit
current faculty against future faculty by offering a large sum to support current faculty
pensions in exchange for cuts to the pension of new hires. GC anticipated the possibility
of higher salary offers in response to the decline in pension benefits, and noted that
these changes, in turn, would likely exacerbate salary inversion and compression at the
departmental level, leading to further divisions. Combined with the likelihood of an
increase in retention cases for mid-career and senior faculty, it was unclear to GC what
the actual cost savings will be, and whether there would be any unanticipated
consequences for the merit system. All things considered, GC felt that adoption of the
proposed retirement alternatives was premature and required further examination.

Report from the Joint Committee on the Administration and the Academic Senate on Faculty
Discipline

Graduate Council was asked to review the report of the Joint Committee of the Administration
and Academic Senate, which was tasked to review disciplinary policy and procedures pertaining
to sexual violence, sexual assault, and sexual harassment. The Council had a number of
observations and recommendations that were communicated to Chair Bhavnani for inclusion in
the Senate’s Divisional Response.

The Council discussed a recommendation in the report regarding the designation of a
confidential resource that would be exempt from reporting requirements when advising faculty,
academic staff, and graduate students seeking advice for issues related to Sexual Violence and
Sexual Harassment (SVSH). GC felt that the Campus Ombuds was the appropriate resource in
this case and found it surprising that the position was not specifically identified.

The report also includes a discussion of interim measures that administrators may put into
place during the investigation of an SVSH claim. GC wondered about the
circumstances under which a respondent would be placed on leave without pay, and
recommended that further guidance be given regarding “rare and egregious cases”.

Finally, the Council discussed the significant concern and confusion on the part of graduate
students regarding the reporting requirements for SVSH cases. The inherent dual role of a
graduate student, both as a student and an apprentice instructor/researcher has the potential to blur the line between their academic and private lives. Graduate students have expressed concern that consulting their peers regarding SVSH issues may result in automatic reporting requirements to the administration. In its discussion, GC members voiced concern that this may lead students to avoid raising their concerns at all, for fear of prompting an investigation. GC recommended that the Office of the President give further thought to these issues and work to expand educational outreach regarding reporting requirements, or, if appropriate, re-examine policy.

Campus Five-Year Planning Perspective

Graduate Council reviewed the Campus Five-Year Planning Perspective, which is a projection of anticipated actions to create, transfer, consolidate, disestablish, or discontinue undergraduate and graduate degree programs, schools, and colleges. The Council did not have any comments to submit in response to the draft perspective.

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 2016-17

- Graduate Student Support

Members:
Dar Roberts, Chair
Sarah Anderson, Vice-Chair (S)
Geoff Raymond, Vice-Chair (F, W)
Paul Berkowitz
Eileen Boris
Maurizia Boscagli
Olivier Deschenes
Carol Genetti, Graduate Dean, Ex-Officio
Michael Gordon
Heejung Kim
Suk-Young Kim
Bernard Kirtman
Michael Ludkovski
Andreas Ludwig
Karen Lunsford
Juan Pablo Lupi
Igor Mezic
Robin Nabi
Cynthia Skenazi
Subhash Suri
Mian Wang
John Kaminsky, Graduate Students Association (GSA) Representative
Christian Villaseñor, Assistant Dean, Consultant
Shasta Delp, Advisor