

Revised on 10/15/03, Agenda item 2.* was added.

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
AGENDA
Friday, October 17, 2003
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Room 912 Sproul Hall**

AGENDA ITEM	ATTACHMENT
<u>ACTION ITEMS</u>	
Agricultural Education Credential Program – Request to re-instate admissions	
Guest: Professor Cary Trexler (Additional materials may be distributed.)	2.1
Please bring Attachment 1.7 from the September 18, 2003 meeting.	
Reports of the Task Force on Faculty Instructional Activities (Hastings)	2.2
Agricultural and Resource Economics – Revised degree requirements (Berger)	
(Changes to be distributed.) Please bring Attachment 1.9 from the Sept. 18, 2003 meeting.	2.3
University Committee on Library – Resolution on Information Literacy (Hastings)	2.*
<u>CONSENT ITEM</u>	
Minutes from September 18, 2003 (To be distributed.)	2.4
<u>DISCUSSION ITEMS</u>	
The UC Davis Vision, A Strategic Plan to Achieve Campus Aspirations (Gibeling)	2.5
Graduate Studies: Educating Innovators, <i>UC Davis Magazine</i>, Fall 2003 (Gibeling)	Handout
(To be distributed at the meeting.)	
Year Round Operation Committee (Hastings)	2.6
Graduate Council Goals for 2003-2004 (Hastings, subcommittee chairs, et al.)	
<u>INFORMATIONAL ITEMS</u>	
Acronyms	2.7
Graduate Studies at UC Davis – Graduate program directory	Enclosed
<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>	
Announcements from the Chair (Hastings)	
Announcements from the Dean (Gibeling)	
Announcements from the Associate Deans (FitzGerald, Ramey)	
Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (Berger)	
Graduate Student Association (Karpel)	
Postdoctoral Scholars Association (van Geelen)	
<u>SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS</u>	
Academic Planning and Development (Meeks)	
Administrative (Hastings)	
Courses and Bylaws (Watkins)	
Educational Policy (Waterhouse)	
Program Review (Kavvas)	
Support and Welfare (Scalettar)	

Alan Hastings, Chair

considered an undergraduate regarding financial support. Dean Jeffery Gibeling asked for a description of the procedure for students getting through the programs. Dr. Goldman said the student completes the credential, then the MA, and finally the specialist credential. She added that the student could take some of the specialist coursework during undergraduate or single subject credential work. Dean Gibeling stated that the Office of Graduate Studies does not want students going back and forth between the credential and Master's. Dr. Goldman said that the "specialist" lays over the other two and that the student would not have to go back and forth. The timing of when students take the coursework depends on how many courses they have taken as undergraduates. Dean Gibeling pointed out that with regard to financial aid and counting students, Graduate Studies needs a "firewall" between the credential and the MA.

Council had numerous questions regarding the program's courses, including who taught 180 and 323. Prof. Trexler said these were taught by adjunct lecturers. Dean Gibeling had additional questions regarding the ABT and AED courses. Prof. Trexler explained that ABT are Agricultural Biological Systems Engineering courses and AED are Ag. Ed. courses. Prof. Trexler reported that he has a joint appointment in the School of Education and in CA&ES. He said that CA&ES would have the Ag. Ed. courses. Dean Gibeling said that one question is who has control of the courses. For example, for the 300-level courses, who controls their content? Dean Gibeling asked Prof. Trexler for his home department in CA&ES. Prof. Trexler said that currently, he is a floater in CA&ES although he is talking with a specific department.

Chair Hastings said that the continuity issue was a serious one regarding the program. Dr. Goldman reported that the CA&ES Dean's office is very supportive of the program. Council continued its discussion of the program's courses. Dean Gibeling asked whether AED 323 might not become an education course. Prof. Trexler responded that it would not because of the agricultural content of the course. Dean Gibeling asked whether there might be students in AED 323 who are not in program. Prof. Trexler responded affirmatively, that there would be students who wanted the content. Dr. Goldman added that the content in agriculture would be available for students who want to go into other careers than teaching, for example, in communication, etc. Dean Gibeling reminded Council that 300-level courses count toward teaching credentials but not graduate degrees. Prof. Sutter responded that some 300-level courses have large enrollments even though they do not count toward a degree because students want them for the content.

Dean Gibeling returned to the continuity issue. He said that he would be more comfortable if Education had control of the courses. Education does not have control when other colleges have control of the resources for, and the content of, the courses. Dr. Goldman said that this is true for all credential programs. The content comes from other departments, for example, from English, mathematics, and the sciences. Dean Gibeling said that in this case the problem is that there is no specified department in CA&ES. Dr. Goldman repeated that the CA&ES Dean is supportive of the program. Prof. Trexler said that the whole time the program existed in the past, it was supported by Unit 18 lecturers. Dr. Goldman added that not having the program would disadvantage the Ag. Ed. students. Prof. Trexler added that it is an "agricultural" specialist not an "education" specialist credential. Dr. Goldman said that the "specialist" refers to the extra content in a particular area, in this case in the area of agriculture. Chair Hastings thanked Prof. Trexler and Dr. Goldman for attending Council's meeting and for clarifying the specialist credential program.

After Prof. Trexler and Dr. Goldman left, Council continued its discussion. Council agreed with Dean Gibeling that the missing piece was the CA&ES Dean's written support of the program.

Prof. Meeks made the motion to recommend to the Dean of Graduate Studies that he approve the request to re-open admissions to the single subject agricultural credential program, as part of the School of Education's MA/credential track, and to approve the agricultural specialist credential program, contingent on Council receiving the CA&ES Dean's written support for the program. Prof. Trish Berger seconded the motion. Council's vote in favor was unanimous. Chair Hastings will write Dean Neal Van Alfen requesting his written commitment of support for the Ag. Ed. credential program. If he receives Dean Van Alfen's written support, Chair Hastings will transmit Council's recommendation to the Dean of Graduate Studies. [Chair Hastings e-mailed Dean Van Alfen on November 5, 2003, Dean Van Alfen responded on November 6, and Chair Hastings wrote Dean Gibeling on November 7, 2003.]

Reports of the Task Force on Faculty Instructional Activities

Chair Hastings said this report from UCOP requires a quick response. Council discussed how graduate education outside the classroom would be categorized and commented on several findings of the Bureau of State Audits. Chair Hastings said that the Western Association of Schools and Colleges reported that UCD has many large and small classes and the average class sizes are appropriate but there are not many middle-size classes at the undergraduate level. Dean Gibeling noted that the proposed methodology for describing instructional activities is a step in the right direction with regard to graduate education. However, there is a huge question of whether the State will agree to this approach. Dean Gibeling suggested that it would be helpful for someone to apply the proposed methodology to the data from the past couple of years to see how the new accounting methods would work. Prof. Paul Singh said that this accounting is done at the Deans' level. Dean Gibeling added that the data are then transmitted to UCOP.

Prof. Berger reported that 400 of the 1000 new courses are slated for UCLA. Dean Gibeling said that although UCD's number of new courses is more modest, the increase in undergraduate courses could have a hidden impact on graduate education. Chair Hastings suggested that in its response Council point out that it is difficult to account for graduate courses. Chair Hastings said that he would draft a response to Prof. Bruce Madewell and distribute it to Council via e-mail for comments before finalizing it. It was re-iterated that a response was needed quickly, there were questions regarding accounting methods for graduate education, and that Council would like to have the new accounting methods be used first on existing data since it is uncertain how these methods will really work.

Agricultural and Resource Economics – Revised degree requirements

Additional revisions requested by Council

Prof. Berger reported that the graduate program in Agricultural and Resource Economics has responded to the requests for changes to its revised degree requirements, both from the Educational Policy Committee last year and from Council at its meeting of September 18, 2003. Council briefly discussed the program's preliminary examination structure that gives students 6 opportunities to pass 3 exams, with a maximum of 3 chances to take any one exam. Prof. Berger made the motion to approve the revised ARE degree requirements. Prof. Sutter seconded the motion and Council's vote in favor was unanimous. Chair Hastings will notify the program chair.

UCOL Resolution on Information Literacy

Chair Hastings thought that the resolution applied more to undergraduate than graduate students, except the portion regarding the ethical use of information. Council members asked about the UCOL's database and thought that the data were anecdotal. Chair Hastings suggested removing

the words “growing” and “ill” to make the resolution positive instead of negative. Council discussed students’ lack of preparation and whether the resolution’s concern was with ethics or literacy. It was unclear to Council why it was being asked to comment on an existing resolution. Ms. Sheri Tatsch, the Graduate Student Assistant to the Dean and Chancellor, said that the campus libraries offer classes each quarter, where the staff walk students through how to find information, including how to access databases. Prof. Sutter, who directs the Teaching Resource Center, reported that there is a very serious problem of plagiarism, especially in English and history papers. Students do not always know that they are plagiarizing. They don’t have critical thinking skills. They do not know if Web information is fact or opinion. She thought that the students’ plagiarizing was due mostly to ignorance and that they were not trying to cheat. She suggested trying to develop guidelines. Council agreed with Dean Gibeling that the resolution was not well researched. Chair Hastings thought that the ethical issues needed to be emphasized. Council agreed that Chair Hastings would send its comments to Prof. Madewell.

CONSENT ITEM

Minutes from September 18, 2003

The minutes were approved as presented.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The UC Davis Vision, A Strategic Plan to Achieve Campus Aspirations

Dean Gibeling reported that the *UC Davis Vision* brochure is the culmination of the draft documents that Council and other campus constituencies commented on last year. This final brochure was first presented at the Chancellor’s Fall Conference. Dean Gibeling reported that the Provost will use the brochure as a framework for making budget decisions and that Council needs to work with it to ensure that graduate education issues are addressed. He pointed out various places in the brochure where graduate education is emphasized. The first strategy mentions increasing the number of graduate students. Under the goal of Discovery, graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are included but not in as many places as they could be. Some indicators of achievement under Discovery, such as research funding, were condensed and details regarding graduate fellowships and increased external fellowships were lost in compressing the number of words.

Dean Gibeling asked Council to look closely at this document. He reported that benchmark baseline statistics will be established over the next year and then they will be used to plan for the future. Dean Gibeling suggested relating requests to the Provost by referring to the document. He said that he wanted to bring the document to Council’s attention and asked Council examine it. He asked Council to think about how it can use the document and refer to it.

Chair Hastings said that graduate education and graduate students figure more predominantly in the final version than in the original drafts. A Council member suggested that if the plan will be used, there would need to be resources to achieve its goals. Dean Gibeling added that it was not yet clear what the path would be. There will be point people who will work with existing committees to determine how to get from the words to actions.

Graduate Studies: Educating Innovators, UC Davis Magazine, Fall 2003

Dean Gibeling referred to the previous document, noting the second indicator “Acceleration of level and rate of growth in sponsored funding and private giving” under the Framework for Success’ last strategy. He pointed out that the campus is preparing for a comprehensive campaign and graduate student support is emerging as one of its primary objectives for gifts. He distributed

the Fall 2003 issue of *UCDavis Magazine* and referred Council to the article entitled “Educating Innovators” on page 27. The article points out that investment in graduate education in the form of graduate student financial support will contribute to the State’s economy and well-being. Dean Gibeling reported that the Office of Graduate Studies is going to prepare many such articles on the research and creative work of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars, to build awareness of graduate education as we approach the campaign. Chair Hastings pointed out that the article focuses on Non-resident Tuition too. Dean Gibeling said that the previous issue of *UC Davis Magazine* included a graduate student profile and future issues will profile students who have received endowed fellowships. Dean Gibeling recognized and gave credit to Alison Kent, Graduate Studies Director of Communications, who wrote the article.

Year Round Operation Committee

Chair Hastings reported that at the October 3, 2003 meeting, the impact of year round operation on graduate education was raised. UCD is one of four campuses where summer is funded as a normal quarter and enrolled students count toward the numbers that affect funding to the campus.

Chair Hastings reported on several areas of concern for graduate education that were discussed, including whether Humanities graduate students would still be able to teach in the summer. Another issue was the impact on committees such as Graduate Council that rely on faculty being available fall, winter and spring. Whether there would be graduate student fees in the summer was another issue. Prof. Steven Crum asked whether the summer would consist of a 10-week quarter or 2 six-week sessions. Chair Hastings responded that this is under discussion and it could be both at the same time.

Associate Dean Melvin Ramey pointed out that so much of what is done on campus is traditional and much of it is not written down. Examples are the way staff interacts, how research is done, and how faculty members interact with students. Year round operation would impact the entire nature of the university. Chair Hastings thought that year round operation would affect graduate education much more than undergraduate education. He expected that the impact would be particularly heavy in some discipline areas.

Associate Dean Ramey presented some background on this push for a summer quarter. It started because of the legislature’s concern with undergraduates’ time to degree. UC responded with a plan for the summer, which started with three campuses and then added UCD. The legislature wanted ladder faculty to do the summer teaching. This has a bigger impact on graduate education and how faculty members interact. There are also issues of staff, who try to use the summer to complete both ongoing and new projects. Year round operation starts to touch everything. Chair Hastings added that the year round theory was that the campus facilities and physical plant were not being used over the summer. However, the classrooms are used in the summer for other things, some of which are academic, such as conferences. Summer is also when maintenance of classrooms can take place. Chair Hastings will continue to report to Council on this committee’s work.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Chair Hastings pointed out the two informational items.

Acronyms

Graduate Studies at UC Davis – Graduate program directory

Graduate Council Goals for 2003-2004

Chair Hastings asked Council consider the following as possible topics for this academic year.

1. He asked Council to consider whether there is a **minimal viable size for a graduate program** and whether there is an **optimal graduate student cohort size**. Regardless of size, graduate programs need and receive a certain amount of support. Chair Hastings thought that small size might apply more to graduate groups than to departmentally-based graduate programs. Chair Hastings thought that it would be worthwhile for Council and graduate programs to consider very small size as a reason for programs to think about combining.
2. Another topic that Chair Hastings would like Council to consider is the Ph.D. student's **Qualifying Examination (QE)** and advancement to candidacy. In the past, the QE's focus was on the student's general knowledge; now many programs' QEs focus on the student's dissertation research proposal. Another question is the number of faculty members on the QE. He suggested that the QE be examined in a comprehensive way.
3. Chair Hastings' third topic was **equity of graduate student employment/stipends**. There has been the push from NSF to increase students' fellowship and traineeship stipends which are now at \$27,500 per year. The discrepancy between these stipends and GSR and TA stipends creates classes of graduate students. Chair Hastings thought that Council might want to raise the issue of equity. Dean Gibeling reported that it has been raised with NSF. Another question is whether this is the best way to attract US students to the sciences.

Dean Gibeling presented a topic for Council's consideration this year. He suggested the possibility of doing something different with the graduate courses on ethics and professionalism. Currently, there are courses offered by various departments across campus; these include courses offered by Sociology, Nutrition and Genetics. They may be of interest to students outside these disciplines but are not readily identified. Dean Gibeling suggested putting these **courses under a Graduate Studies designation**, offering them to a broader group of students, and having Graduate Studies pay for the courses.

Dean Gibeling suggested that consideration of this proposal might start in Council's Courses and Bylaws Committee. He asked whether Graduate Council would feel comfortable with Graduate Studies offering such courses. He reported that some graduate courses are currently offered at the college level; for example, the College of Engineering offers graduate courses. Dean Gibeling thought that the Academic Senate Committee on Courses of Instruction might be willing to consider such a proposal. Prof. Scalettar pointed out that individual PI grants require applicants to include ethics training in their proposals. He thought that it would be good for grant proposals to be able to include a specific course that students would take.

Council discussed whether courses should be geared to a broad array of students or whether they should be specialty courses. Prof. Sutter said that Pomology has a course that is designed to deal with biotechnology issues. Prof. Crum recommended promoting courses in ethics and protocol, especially with human subjects, and added that some ethnic and cultural groups have their own protocols. Prof. Meeks thought that there might be a course with a core topic such as ethics, with discussion sections in specific areas or disciplines. Dr. Teresa Dillinger pointed out that the PFTF (Professors for the Future) program does this but that there is a larger body of students who are future professors and need the courses too.

Chair Hastings thought that “interdisciplinary” programs do and would continue to receive support for the foreseeable future. GSA Chair Jonathan Karpel pointed out that students may be hesitant to enroll in professional courses offered by departments or graduate programs in fields other than their own. He added that these courses benefit students and are good to have on their transcripts. Dean Gibeling noted there is a question of who would teach the courses and pointed out that Graduate Council would need to oversee the courses as the responsible faculty body.

Chair Hastings will ask the Courses and Bylaws Committee to consider this proposal and report back to Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graduate Council Chair Announcements

Chair Hastings said that he had no further announcements.

Dean–Graduate Studies

Graduate Studies Dean Jeffery Gibeling made several announcements. He is working out the details of **implementing the Non-resident Tuition Remission (NRTR) policy**. He will consult with Graduate Council, the Committee on Research, and the Committee on Academic Planning and Budget Review. This item will be on the next Council meeting agenda.

Dean Gibeling reported that **negotiations regarding the TA contract** are underway with the UAW union.

Dean Gibeling reported that graduate student enrollments increased this year. There are over 4100 graduate students, compared with 3700 students last year. These numbers include credential students. Our goal is 5000 students by 2010. Prof. Meeks reported that in the Division of Biological Sciences enrollments are increasing while the number of TA positions is decreasing. The DBS has had research funding for students, which was not used by students; now some of that funding is being used.

Associate Dean for Graduate Programs

Associate Dean Paul FitzGerald was out of town on a graduate student recruitment trip.

Associate Dean for Students

Associate Dean Melvin Ramey announced that Graduate Studies staff members have been on recruitment trips. There has been good response to the recruitment efforts. Faculty members have been joining the Graduate Studies staff. The expanded effort has been targeting UCD’s regular recruiting locations and adding new places. In response to Associate Dean Ramey’s question, Assistant Dean Duffy reported that graduate student enrollments are up 458 students over last year. Dean Gibeling said that this represents a 15% increase in enrollments. The increase is partially due to the economy but UCD’s increase is more than it is at other institutions. Dean Gibeling added that more students than expected accepted admissions offers.

Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs

Vice Chair Trish Berger, Graduate Council’s representative to CCGA, reported that CCGA has approved the UCD Linguistics Ph.D. program. At its last meeting, CCGA discussed student fee increases (part of which is returned to the campuses as student financial aid) and whether undergraduate and graduate enrollment numbers would increase or decrease next year. Prof.

Berger reported that CCGA thought that there was a lack of methodology in the task force report. CCGA also discussed joint programs and guidelines for other degrees.

Graduate Student Association

GSA Chair Jonathan Karpel had no announcements.

Postdoctoral Scholars Association

PSA Chair Dr. Albert van Geelen reported that PSA's first meeting would be on October 24, 2003. He said that the PSA needed to find representatives for two of Graduate Council's subcommittees. Dr. van Geelen said that he attended the postdoctoral scholars' monthly social and that a number of international postdoctoral scholars were there. He also reported that PSA has increased the number of travel awards that it offers. There are now eight awards at \$250 each and PSA hopes to grow these.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Academic Planning and Development

APD Chair Prof. Jack Meeks reported that he has a full committee and that it has not yet met.

Administrative

Chair Hastings reported that the Administrative Committee's first meeting has been scheduled to consider several student appeals.

Courses and Bylaws

C&B Chair Prof. Evan Watkins was absent.

Educational Policy

EPC Chair Prof. Andrew Waterhouse was absent.

Program Review

PRC Chair Prof. Levent Kavvas reported that this year the PRC will review 10 graduate programs. The review teams for 9 programs have been formed. There is one program for which a liaison has not yet been recruited; 4 nominees have declined to serve. One program review will take place in the fall and the rest will be scheduled in the winter and spring quarters. In consultation with Dean Gibeling, Ms. Kathy Garcia is recruiting the external reviewers. Prof. Kavvas expects to be able to present all the PRC Reports to Council by the end of year.

Support and Welfare

On behalf of S&W Chair Prof. Richard Scalettar, Prof. Sutter reported that the committee hopes to have more faculty members to review fellowship applications this year. Last year the committee had 30 additional volunteers; this year it would like 60 volunteers. She reported that the committee would review other items too. Chair Hastings will send the Graduate Program Chairs a second, stronger e-mail request for nominations of faculty members to review graduate student fellowship applications.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

lsw – Graduate Studies