

**Graduate Group Chairs Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 7, 2020**  
**9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. | Zoom**

**Meeting Minutes**

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Graduate Group Chairs Present: Chris Amemiya, Irene Beattie, Anita Bhappu, Camile Carvalho (AMAT Rep.), Martha Conklin, Courtenay Conrad, Justin Cook, Kevin Dawson, Gerardo Diaz, Sayantani Ghosh, Marcelo Kallmann, Erik Menke, Victor Munoz, Christopher Viney (MBSE Rep), Jan Wallander, Irene Yen  
Hrant Hratchian (Graduate Council Vice-Chair)

Graduate Division Staff Present: Eric Cannon, Jesus Cisneros, Ashley Eagleson, Heath Jackson, Chris Kello, Maria Nishanian, Tsu Ya, Marjorie Zatz

Guest: Kurt Schnier (Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Budget)

### **Announcements**

#### **1. Annual Review of Graduate Chairs/Programs:**

- Survey of grad group faculty and students occurring now.
- Graduate Division will send you your program data by April 20; please return by April 30. Be sure to include updates on your projected enrollments.
- Dean Zatz will get all gg chair review letters out by end of May.

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Transitions in Graduate Division – 5 min – Dean Zatz & Associate Dean Kello**

- Dean Zatz will serve as Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development beginning July 1, 2020. Until then, she will overlap with VCR Sam Traina to allow for adequate knowledge transfer.
- Associate Dean Kello will serve as Acting Vice Provost and Graduate Dean beginning July 1, 2020 and will overlap with Dean Zatz from April through June.
- We will announce a formal search for Acting Associate Graduate Dean shortly.

#### **2. Graduate Funding Model – 30 min – Kurt Schnier**

- Detailed discussion ensued of revisions to the model, including especially the tuition return to programs from masters' programs, and a pilot model to present to the Provost for use over the next few years.
- Goal is to test this model over the next few months and begin pilot implementation in the fall.

**Action Item:** Chairs may send questions and feedback to Kurt Schnier [kschnier@ucmerced.edu](mailto:kschnier@ucmerced.edu) over the next 2 weeks.

**3. Annual Review of Students – 10 min – Dean Zatz/Heath Jackson/Jenny Xiang**

- Heath presented revisions to the faculty forms created for annual review of graduate students' progress.
- Some chairs expressed concern about piloting the new format this year given recent events surrounding COVID-19 and questions some faculty may still have. Decision to pilot will be left up to each graduate program.

Action Item: Chairs are asked to please answer yes or no to the Questionnaire that went out on 4/6/20 and email your responses to Heath Jackson [hjackson2@ucmerced.edu](mailto:hjackson2@ucmerced.edu) and Jenny Xiang, [zxiang3@ucmerced.edu](mailto:zxiang3@ucmerced.edu).

**4. Graduate Council – 5 min – Hrant Hratchian**

- Graduate Council has passed a S/U policy and will discuss other ways they can help (e.g., possible extensions of normative time to degree and other markers of progress) – please give GC a couple of weeks to come up with guidance and then pass on to your faculty and graduate students.

**5. Roundtable & Other Business – 10 min – Dean Zatz & All**

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 A.M.