

Graduate Group Chairs Meeting
Thursday, January 24, 2019
9:00 – 10:00 am
SSB 250

AGENDA

Graduate Group Chairs Present: Kara McCloskey, Boaz Ilan, Marc Beutel, Kevin Dawson, Sai Ghosh, Anita Bhappu, Jan Wallander, Courtney Conrad, LeRoy Westerling, Miriam Barlow, Marcelo, Irene Beattie

Graduate Division Staff Present: Marjorie S. Zatz, Mayra Chavez-Franco, Maggie Farias, Tsu Ya, Cassie Gunter, Jen Quiralte, Will Suh, Jesus Cisneros, Eric Cannon

Not Present: Gerardo Diaz, Victor Munoz, Erik Menke, Paul Brown, Ramesh Balasubramaniam

1. Announcements

- Recruitment fellowship nominations due Feb 1: Graduate group chairs can nominate up to 2 students per fellowship and using SLATE chairs will only need to write one nomination letter. Letters should be going out before Graduate Visitation Weekend.
- Graduate Group Chairs were reminded that edits to the Graduate Studies section of the Catalog are due February 1. Graduate Dean Zatz thanked those who have already responded.
- Chief Diversity officer interviews will be held in the first two weeks of February. Graduate Group Chairs were encouraged to participate in the interviews.
- The budget office is meeting with schools on academic budget allocations and instructional budgets. The School Dean should be providing information on when those meetings will be held. Graduate Group Chairs need to be working with department chairs to figure out the TA allocations and GSR funding possibilities.
- Graduate Dean Zatz will be on vacation and Associate Dean Chris Kello has been delegated signing authority in her absence.

2. Graduate Council Chair's report – LeRoy Westerling – 10 min

- The EVC/Provost attended the Division Council meeting and informed faculty that the UC system has a new process for proposing investments to the legislature,

especially with related to funding research. EVC/Provost asked the Division Council to gather input on what UC Merced can spend money on that would help build up the research capacity of the campus including faculty startup, fellowships, and equipment in shared laboratories.

- **Action Item:** Graduate Group Chairs will provide budgetary items to Graduate Council Chari Westerling by Monday.

3. Summer bridge

- This year the Summer Bridge program will be funded by two major awards and will run from June 17 through August 8. Six IH/Sociology graduate students by the Mellon Foundation, thirteen students, will be funded from an award coming from UC Provost Office, and three additional students can be part of the program if faculty supported.
- **Action Item:** Graduate Division will send the web form to graduate group chairs so that they may submit nominations.

4. Graduate Visitation Weekend – final planning

- Graduate group chairs were asked to send names of the five continuing students that will be attending the reception on Friday and BBQ on Saturday.

5. Update on plans for a graduate funding model

- Graduate Division will be proposing a new funding model that is like the UC Irvine model. Variations will be included to consider potential challenges for new programs such as longer time to degree.

6. A post-mortem on recruitment –

- Graduate Groups indicated that the quality of applicants was good, and even though their application numbers did not increase significantly, they expect to have a good yield.
- Graduate Dean Zatz reminded chairs that concurrent enrollment for two doctoral programs is not allowable.
- Grad Division will be putting together a toolkit for faculty to use to help engage faculty more actively in recruitment efforts. Part of the toolkit will include two PowerPoint slides that faculty can add to their presentations.

7. Other topics for discussion? 10 min.

- Marjorie would like to meet with to continue the conversation and discuss the graduate group chairs plans for the next recruitment cycle.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.