

**Graduate Council
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2025**

Minutes

Graduate Council approved the minutes from the October 16, 2025 meeting as written.

Chair's Announcements

Chair Santhakumar reported that at the last Executive Council meeting, the APM 015/016 proposal to revise disciplinary sanction guidelines was discussed and received a lot of push back from committees. The Flex MPP proposal was also discussed and there was a lot of confusion surrounding the budget, so Chair Barish suggested that Financial Planning & Analysis discuss the financial implications. The need for clarity about the MS/PhD language requirement was discussed. Chair Santhakumar met with Provost Watkins, CIO Gunkel and UCR is behind with AI (instruction, resources, faculty needs, etc.). There is an Administrative/Senate Council on AI on campus that will determine how to use AI for instruction, research, etc. and how it will be governed. A survey of faculty to gather their needs may be conducted in the future. It has been mentioned to Chair Santhakumar that the administration is skeptical of the value of graduate program reviews. Chair Santhakumar would like to explore this more and have Graduate Council meet with the Deans. UCR's deadline is approaching to be in federal compliance with accessibility of websites. There is also more cybersecurity training coming, and UAW negotiations are continuing.

CCGA Representative Announcements

Vice Chair and CCGA Representative Park reported that at the last CCGA meeting it was decided that double counting will be allowed again – up to 30% of graduate courses will be allowed to be double counted. CCGA is working on finalizing the wording for this policy. For new graduate program proposals, double counting needs to be justified. The Council discussed that previously approved programs with double counting of undergraduate courses is a discrepancy that may become an issue the Council will need to address. CCGA discussed the California agreement with CSU and UC that allows CSUs to propose PhDs with an expedited UC review of proposals to ensure there is no duplication with existing UC PhD programs, CCGA is conducting these reviews now. At the CCGA meeting it was mentioned that each campus needs to reply to the Future of Doctoral Education report that was released last academic year.

GSA Representative Announcements

GSA Representative Steinhauser reported that UAW negotiations have been productive. At the University of California Graduate and Professional Council (UCGPC) meeting, it was reported that some UCs are concerned about the 18-quarter limit, UCR currently has no issue with this. Representative Steinhauser is currently working with the VC of Student Affairs (VCSA) office to address student wellbeing.

VPDGS Announcements

VPDGS Kos reported that the proposed UAW compensation plan would make it very difficult to hire GSRs. At the Council of Graduate Deans (CoGD) meeting, President Milliken and Provost Newman attended and reported that the UC President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) will continue largely due to all the faculty complaints. VPDGS Kos met with Amy Lee (UC Labor Relations) due to the union settlement. All STEM students and programs on a first-year fellowship and in programs with rotations will be put on 25% GSR. VPDGS Kos reported that she attended

the NORC at the University of Chicago meeting regarding how universities are using AI (operations, research). There were about 20-25 deans at the meeting and there will be a white paper coming. The CoGD developed a document regarding AI that VPDGS Kos will share with the Council. Graduate Division applied for an innovation award and were selected as the recipient. The award came with a \$20k prize that will be used to train graduate students. VPDGS Kos reported that School of Education Professor Alice Lee will be in charge of Grad Qual in the Graduate Division. Psychology Professor Jimmy Calenchini is passionate about mentorship and is reaching out to graduate advisors to come up with a white paper. VPDGS mentioned that systemwide does want campuses to respond to the Future of Doctoral Education Report. Chemistry and Sociology wrote great responses to the report that VPDGS Kos offered to share with the Council.

Courses & Programs Subcommittee

- A. MS Business Analytics – *approved.*
- B. Comparative Literature -- *approved.*
- C. Sociology -- *approved.*
- D. Neuroscience -- *approved.*

[Systemwide Review] (Proposal) Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy IMT-1300: Information Technology Accessibility

Graduate Council reviewed the proposed revisions and had no comments.

[Systemwide Review] (Proposal) Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 140 (UCAADE)

Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the proposed revisions and noted a typo on the first page – “B. Duties. Consistent with Bylaw 40, the Committee shall: (Am 28 03)”, Bylaw 40 should be Bylaw 140. While the Council is philosophically opposed to the revisions, the revisions were approved.

[Systemwide Review] (Proposal) Proposed Presidential Policy on Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct (UC Research Misconduct Policy)

Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the proposed policy and some members felt that the criterion “objectivity” should be defined.

[Systemwide Review] (Proposal) Proposed Revisions to APM - 036, General University Policy Regarding Academic Appointees/Employment

Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the proposed revisions and had no comments.

[Campus Review] (Proposed Revised Policy) Federally Required Changes to the Policy and Procedures for Responding To Allegations of Research Misconduct, Policy #529-900

Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the proposed revised policy and had no comments.

[Campus Review] (Report Review) Drafts of UCR's WASC Self-Study and Institutional Report for Reaffirmation

Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the draft WASC Self-Study and thought the report was well done. The Council’s only suggestion was to add a table that lists all the ongoing and completed graduate reviews that have been conducted since the last WASC visit.

Graduate Program Reviews

- A. Microbiology Graduate Program Review** – GC reviewed and discussed the program’s response to GC’s Findings & Recommendations and voted in favor of closing out the review. Due to the outcome of the extramural review, the Graduate Council voted in favor of conducting a limited internal review with the program leadership and deans in two years (AY 2027/28). At the end of the Spring 2026 quarter, the Graduate Council will also be requesting an update on first year student advising, mentoring, and onboarding.