I. Subcommittee Reports

a. Academic Planning and Development (Schank)

The Academic Planning and Development committee is discussing possible strategies for restructuring graduate education at UC Davis. The committee is considering eight possible strategies to discuss more in depth next year, these include:

1. Leave the current graduate group structure intact and work over time to address the problems faced by graduate groups.
2. Change the current graduate group structure in an aggressive piecemeal way.
3. Identify which graduate groups can become departments and which graduate groups can be attached to existing departments.
4. Have a 7 year expiration cycle for graduate groups, to correspond with their review cycle. In addition to the current review process, each group would also have to justify why they are a viable interdisciplinary area for graduate students.
5. Analyze graduate groups for faculty membership, connections across divisions, similar needs, etc., and aggregate graduate groups into clusters based on similar needs.
6. Establish a full graduate school in which funding for graduate education comes through the graduate school.
7. Eliminate or consolidate most graduate groups to a much smaller but more manageable number.
8. Identify institutes and centers to which some graduate groups could be attached and provide some support for these graduate groups.

The committee work to provide an evaluation of each of the strategies to Graduate Council.

The committee also discussed the issue of possible taxation of graduate students at its last meeting.

b. Administrative (Baumgarth)

The Administrative committee dealt with a number of cases and had multiple disqualification appeals from the same program, the Office of Graduate Studies has followed up with the program to determine whether there is a larger issue. The program has been responsive and these instances are being taken seriously.

c. Bylaws (Burman)

The Bylaws Committee has one bylaw request that will be discussed by Graduate Council today. The committee is currently working on three other bylaws, one of which is pending further revisions from the program.

d. Courses (Finney, Proxy)
The Courses Committee has a number of online course proposal requests currently in their queue. The committee has been considering whether it is feasible to have online graduate programs and how the resident requirements for doing research should be addressed with these proposals. The committee does not know whether the resident requirement is a UC Davis or system wide requirement, this is something that would need to be considered as the discussion regarding online program requirements continues. The committee is interested in knowing at what other schools such as Stanford and MIT are doing in regards to online programs.

**Announcement from Nicole Baumgarth**
The request for access to the ICMS course description has been endorsed by Executive Council.

e. Educational Policy (Cappa) – unable to attend.

f. Program Review (Zieve)
The Program Review Committee has started looking at the designated emphasis questions for the questionnaires, in addition, based on feedback received from the reviewers, the committee will be looking at the DE report templates. The committee has also met with John King, Director of Analysis and Policy to go over the data that is provided by Graduate Studies for the program reviews.

g. Program Review Closure (Temple)
The Program Review Closure Committee has three reviews that are currently being addressed. One is in draft form and is expected to be ready for Graduate Council’s January meeting. The remainder of the reviews are still pending responses.

h. Support (Arnett)
The Graduate Student Support Committee has full membership now, with a total of three Senate members, one Federation member, and one GSA representative. The committee has also now received the Fellowship data that was requested from the Office of Graduate Studies.

**Action Item:** The committee has been tasked with looking at the data and presenting it to Graduate Council.

i. Welfare (Levy)
The Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Welfare Committee will be looking at the submissions on applications for the Distinguished Graduate Mentoring Award.

**Announcement from Nicole Baumgarth**
Nicole has been meeting with the Graduate Program and Graduate Group Chairs this week. The Chairs have indicated that there should be a process to reward good mentoring in the merits and promotions process. If Graduate Council feels that what is being done now is not working, Graduate Council would need to come up with a proposal as to what would be most useful for evaluating good mentoring.

**II. Consent Calendar** – Posted on the ASIS Whiteboard

- Meeting Summary from November 16, 2017
- Proposal to Reconstitute the MA in English to an MFA in Creative Writing
- Program Review Closure Study of Religion GG
d. Program Review Closure Molecular Cellular and Integrative Physiology GG

e. Program Review Closure Animal Biology Graduate Group

f. Affiliation Request: Microbiology with DE in Translational Research
   i. Nicole Baumgarth recused from voting on this item.

g. Affiliation Request: Geography with DE in International Community Nutrition

**Motion to accept the consent calendar: Approved (Nicole Baumgarth abstained from voting on the Microbiology with DE in Translational Research affiliation request).**

### III. New Business Items

**a. POLICY DEVELOPMENT 1:55 PM**

i. Graduate online courses and programs

Nicole Baumgarth provided an overview of this issue. A number of schools have expressed interest in developing online graduate programs. In the process of discussing the online programs, the current policies are sufficient to approve or disapprove new program proposals. However, Graduate Council has not considered programs that are entirely online and whether it makes sense for the University of California to offer multiple online programs in the same field. Proposals may fall within three categories:

1. Creation of new online programs.
2. Move of portions of an existing program from in-class to online delivery.
3. Elimination of an on-campus delivered graduate program and resurrection as an online graduate program.

Some items for consideration are that an online course will receive a new course number, because the course number changes, degree requirements require to be updated. If COCI approved these online course, at which point would a full review by Graduate Council be required? At which point would a full review by CCGA be required? Graduate Council needs to establish a policy, what changes would trigger a full local and/or system-wide review.

CCGA considered the issue of online graduate programs at their last meeting. There are online initiatives being considered and CCGA is trying to get more information from individual UC campuses on that issue.

Additional items to consider as graduate council continues discussion of this issue include:

- How are contact hours determined with online programs?
- What is included in the extended course descriptions for the online courses?
- What criteria would be deemed acceptable by Graduate Council for the courses to be approved?
- The course form on ICMS may need to be updated to include the criteria required to approve online courses.
- Whether the program is being developed by the University or by a vendor should be taken into consideration.

**Action Items:**

- Margie Longo, Jeff Schank, and William Horwath have been tasked to tackle this issue as an ad hoc committee for Graduate Council. GSA may appoint a representative to serve in the ad hoc committee.
- Judi Garcia will schedule the first meeting in January, Nicole Baumgarth will be in attendance.
- The Graduate Council Courses Committee has been tasked with providing a list of the current requirements for online courses.
PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

i. DE in Critical Theory
   Rena Zieve provided an overview of the review for the DE in Critical Theory. The associated faculty for this DE are from various departments in the Humanities and Social Sciences. This is one of the largest DEs at UC Davis. Overall the students are satisfied with the DE. However, the DE struggles with funding and students are interested in having something outside of the course work that can enhance their experience. The DE has little financial support, but would like to offer nine or more courses during the year (3 per quarter). Currently, the DE is teaching two courses/quarter and it struggles to find faculty teaching the courses.

   During the discussion it was noted that certain electives for this DE were approved retroactively. It was recommended that courses should not be approved retroactively and to instead to provide adequate student advising in the selection of electives.

   Motion to accept PRC report: Approved unanimously.

ii. Integrative Genetics and Genomics
   • Karen Bales, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

   Overall the graduate group has gone through a lot of changes since the last review. There was a change in name, new courses and faculty were also added. Morale is very high among the faculty and students. Everyone had very positive things to say about the former and current graduate group chair. The program seems to be reenergized. Student outcomes are very good for this graduate group.

   Some of the challenges with the graduate group chair position could be strengthen by incentivizing graduate teaching. Other challenges noted included that the student population was not as diverse, but the program does seem to be addressing this issue. The program has international students that feel welcome and supported by the program and the program is participating in the UC-HBCU initiative. The graduate group has not spent enough time thinking about their national standing. Programs/Departments that were identified as aspirational did not rank high internationally. It was noted that one third of the student body is represented by UC Davis students. This seems high for a top ranked program. The graduate group could potentially benefit from a faculty retreat to develop a strategic plan moving forward.

   Action Item: Nicole Baumgarth will draft the Graduate Council transmittal letter.

   Motion to accept PRC report: Approved unanimously.

iii. DE in Biotechnology
   This is a large DE that started when there was a training grant in Biotechnology. This DE is not focused on courses. One seminar class is offered that brings in people from the industry. Important is an internship program associated with the DE. A staff member exists who supports the DE, however, support for the DE is stretched thin.

   The students that participate in the DE have noted that it does help their careers, in part because of the internship associated with this DE. Students noted that the DE seems to cater mainly to students in biology and engineering, while students not from these
disciplines are feeling left out. For example a required biology course was not as useful to them. This issue was already raised in the previous review of the DE.

It was noted that coordination of the existing internship program for the large number of students enrolled in the DE is not sustainable without further funding. The internship program is strong but from an academic standpoint, the program is more difficult to evaluate. Graduate Council members questioned whether the internship program could continue without it being a DE. It was noted by committee members that this is very similar to the FUTURE Program.

Motion to endorse the PRC report: Approved.

Note: Denneal Jamison-McClung recused from discussion and voting. Nicole Baumgarth abstained from voting.

c. BYLAWS COMMITTEE 2:50 PM
   
i. Environmental Policy and Management Bylaws
      There were no major concerns with the requested changes for these bylaws, the Bylaws Committee reviewed the changes and recommended approval.

      Motion to approve the bylaws: unanimously approved.

d. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING PRELIMINARY EXAM REQUIREMENT 3:05 PM
Nicole Baumgarth presented a brief overview of an issue with the Chemical Engineering program potentially not following their approved degree requirements. In particular the section which indicates that students will be matched with a major professor. The Administrative Committee dealt with a disqualification appeal that brought attention to this issue. A letter has been drafted to ask the program for clarification as to whether their approved degree requirements are being followed. Graduate Council is being asked to endorse the letter so that this can be sent to the program.

It was noted by the members that the program may be taking more PhD students than they can assist, and that this may be an issue with other programs as well. There was brief discussion as to whether Graduate Council should consider creating a general policy that states programs should be responsible for assisting students in finding a major professor. It was noted that a policy might be difficult to enforce.

Action Item: The letter will be updated based on feedback from the discussion and it will be placed on the consent calendar for the next meeting.

e. REQUEST FOR CONSULTATION 3:20 PM
   
i. Draft WASC Special Visit Report
      The Academic Planning and Development Committee initially reviewed the Draft WASC Special Visit Report. It was determined that there were several things left out with the report and that the document in its current form was not accurate. Jeff Schank will draft a letter which includes the areas of concern to be submitted as Graduate Council response. In addition he will provide some edits to the draft response.

      Action Item: The draft response will be posted to ASIS for additional comments.