I. Announcements

a. Graduate Council Chair (Paw U)
   - An interim mentoring report will be presented at the Executive Council Meeting scheduled for April 21, 2016. A final verbal report is due on May 19th and a final written report is due on May 25th to be submitted for the June Representative Assembly meeting.
   - FPC submitted a proposal to change committee membership.
   - The search waiver report and budget report will be presented at the Executive Council Meeting.
   - Draft Domestic Diversity GE requirements will be presented at the Executive Council meeting.

b. Vice Provost and Dean Graduate Studies (Mohapatra)
   - HARCS Dean’s Fellowship – a report is being written to be provided to the Academic Senate with data on the award.
   - Program Review
     - The budget model seems to be a common topic on the program reviews
     - There needs to be more discussion on how to improve the budget model
     - Need to look at the broader scope and how to support graduate education.

c. Graduate Studies Associate Deans (Calvert & Delplanque)
   - Continuing work on mentoring.

d. CCGA – Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (Beckett)
   - No new updates

e. GSA – Graduate Student Association (Washington)
   - Recently lobbying for
     - AB1653: Universities will be held accountable for reporting on hate crimes.
     - AB1747: Would allow CalFresh benefits to be used on campus.
     - AB2017: Recently passed the Assembly. Will allow universities to apply for grants related to mental health.
   - System wide: working on issues of sexual violence and harassment.
   - Mentoring: President Napolitano wants to convene a meeting with all the Graduate Deans.

f. PSA – Postdoctoral Scholars Association (Ashby)
   - Postdoctoral Research Symposium scheduled for May 18, 2016.
g. GSADC – Graduate Student Assistant to the Dean and Chancellor (Vonasek)
   - Interdisciplinary Graduate and Professional Student Symposium was successful – Matthew Savoca will be the finalist at the UC wide competition.
   - Student Family Housing – The Provost has charged a group of people to move forward with the planning; will be working with campus construction.
   - WOW (Sponsored by Graduate Studies) will be changing its name to Graduate Student Orientation (GSO) and will be held September 12 – 16, 2016. Orientation for International students is scheduled for September 8th and 9th.

II. Consent Calendar – Posted on the ASIS whiteboard 2:05 PM
   a. Meeting summary from April 8, 2016
      Action Item: Electronic vote to be conducted.

III. New Business Items 2:10 PM
   a. Geography
      i. PRC Report
      ii. Kate Scow, Ad Hoc Committee Chair invited to present at 2:10
         Action Item: Transmittal letter will be drafted by Nicole Baumgarth and an electronic vote will be conducted.
   b. GSR Tuition Waiver
      A letter request was sent to Graduate Council on March 14, 2016 from The College of Biological Sciences (CBS) Graduate Program Chairs (Fred Chedin, Gaby Nevitt, Andy Sih, Neelima Sinha, Dan Starr, Martin Usrey, Catherine VandeVoort, and John Voss) requesting that Graduate Council discuss the issue of the cost of graduate students that are supported on extramural grants. Cathy VandeVoort provided a brief overview explaining that this issue is impacting the willingness of faculty to support graduate students on grants because the cost of a graduate student is roughly equivalent to that of a post-doctoral fellow. Discussion and questions among Graduate Council members included the following:
      - Departments are being taxed on faculty effort.
      - Once a student advances to candidacy why is tuition still charged at the same rate?
      - There are issues with employing graduate students as it’s very close to the cost of hiring a postdoc.
      - Need to find out if this is a campus issue or a system-wide issue.
      - Graduate Council members recommended that Graduate Council make an official recommendation on these issues.
         Action Item: Dean Mohapatra will provide data on the number of student’s supported on extramural grant on which a professor is getting the salary recovered and the estimated cost for campus if that tuition cost dropped to zero.
   c. Posthumous Recognition of Graduate Students
Graduate Council received a request on December 8, 2015 from Committee on Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction (CERJ) Chair John Hunt to propose regulation changes to allow posthumous recognition of graduate students.

The committee determined that the Academic Planning and Development subcommittee should conduct the initial review of this request.

**Action Item:** Assigned to Academic Planning and Development for review.

d. Proposed Revisions to Davis Division Regulations 500-513

Graduate Council received a request on March 13, 2016 from Committee on Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction (CERJ) Chair John Hunt to provide additional clarification on the proposal from Graduate Council to revise the Davis Division Regulations 500-513. In particular CERJ would like the following addressed:

1. Can a thesis be a capstone, or is the capstone an alternative to the thesis? We believe it is the former based on 500(C)(4), but 500(B), which describes Plan I and Plan II, could be read to suggest that the thesis is an alternative to the capstone.

2. Would it be advisable to specify further the form the capstone has to take? The draft states that the “norm” shall be a thesis or comprehensive exam, but the capstone does not have to be a thesis or exam. The regulation specifies only that the capstone must be “a culminating activity that demonstrates the knowledge and skills a graduate student has acquired through their studies.”

3. Given the fact that this rule addresses the nature of the capstone, would it be advisable to place it earlier in the regulation, before the term “capstone” is discussed in connection with Plan I and Plan II?

The Committee determined that the Academic Planning and Development subcommittee should conduct the initial review of this request.

**Action Item:** Assigned to Academic Planning and Development for review.

e. Concentration Designation on Graduate Transcripts

A request from Undergraduate Council Chair Ed-Caswell Chen was submitted to Graduate Council asking if Graduate Council had discussed the possibility of having the registrar include the degree concentration on Graduate degree transcripts, given that the registrar is doing this for undergraduate transcripts. The committee discussed the issue, there was discussion in favor and in opposition to having a concentration on a Graduate degree. The main discussion included:

- Will having a concentration listed on the degree limit future career opportunities for the students?
- Having the concentration listed could enhance employment opportunities in specialized fields.
An opt-in option could be given to students so they can decide whether they would like to include the concentration in their degree.

**Action Item:** Move to Whiteboard discussion for additional input.

### IV. Continuing Business

#### 3:00 PM

a. **International Commercial Law – Bylaws and Degree Requirements**
   The committee did not reach quorum and was unable to vote at this meeting. It was determined that an electronic vote would be conducted to expedite the process.
   **Action Item:** Electronic vote to be conducted.

b. **Graduate Student Mentoring Action Plan (GSMAP)**
   i. **Ad-Hoc Mentoring Committee Report (Peluffo)**
      • A graduate student progress report draft was presented by Kyaw Tha Paw U. The following feedback was provided:
        ▪ Set up Student/Faculty work expectation and mutual agreements, these should include goals.
        ▪ The section including the phrase “Student has been meeting with faculty no less than once a quarter” should be reworded to encourage more constant communication.
        ▪ Nicole Baumgarth offered to send a sample of what is being used in her department.
        ▪ It is important for the mentor and the mentee to write clear expectations.

### V. Subcommittee Reports  **(Posted on ASIS Whiteboard)**

a. **Academic Planning and Development (Bolander)**
b. **Administrative (Paw U)**
c. **Bylaws (Burman)**
d. **Courses (Longo)**
e. **Educational Policy (Sundaresan)**
f. **Program Review (Baumgarth)**
g. **Program Review Closure (VandeVoort)**
h. **Support (Arnett)**
i. **Welfare (Peluffo)**