Graduate Council
Jeff Lansman, PhD, Chair

MINUTES
Thursday, September 11, 2008

PRESENT: Jeff Lansman (Chair), Pat Calarco, Ed Yelin, Michael Beattie, Nancy Stotts, John Fecondo, Robert Raffai, Mary Lynch, Laurie Stepanek, Chris DesJarlais, Elizabeth Watkins

ABSENT: Patricia Babbitt, Yadong Huang, Kimberly Topp

GUESTS: Rick Wylie, Lani Proctor-Pedersen

The Graduate Council was called to order by Chair Lansman on September 11, 2008 at 2:10 p.m. in room S-118. A quorum was present.

The minutes of June 17, 2008 were approved.

Issues for 2008-09
Graduate Council members discussed issues for consideration in 2008-09. They included:
- Support for graduate students, including funding
- Support for graduate education, including instruction and curriculum planning
- Postdoctoral scholars
- Graduate student access to self-supporting programs
- Promoting the value of qualitative research at UCSF
- Advocate for struggling programs as part of the ongoing program review process

Chair’s Report – Jeff Lansman, Chair
Chair Lansman welcomed the Council to the 2008-09 year and suggested the following:
- Graduate Council can play an advocacy role for different programs since it reviews programs and has an overview of which programs are thriving and which need help.
- Supporting graduate education: Didactic instruction component needs to be supported, including faculty who prioritize instruction.
- Self Supporting Graduate programs: Graduate Council may want to form a task force on the issue, perhaps to recommend that fees for UCSF students enrolled in other programs should be waived, while the program collects fees from students enrolled in that program specifically.
- A significant challenge for UCSF is the codification of support and infrastructure for interdisciplinary programs at UCSF. Graduate Council could create a task force to explore the issue and write a report to be brought before the Academic Senate Coordinating Committee. Reviewing examples from UCSD and the Saulk Institute could be informative.
- Examine how to emphasize to the Departments the importance of graduate teaching for promotion.

Vice Chair’s Report – Elizabeth Watkins, Vice Chair
As the UCSF Representative to the Systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs, Vice Chair Watkins will report to the Council on systemwide issues throughout the year.

**Dean's Report – Pat Calarco, Dean**

**Postdoc Bootcamp**
The Postdoc Bootcamp is a grant-funded program about how to get a postdoc position for underrepresented minority graduate students who are nearly finished with their graduate study. It will be hosted by UCSF again in 2008-09.

**United Auto Workers (UAW) Seek to Unionize UCSF Postdocs**
UAW successfully gathered signatures from 50%+1 of two of three groups of postdocs at UCSF (not including postdoc pay-directs). The possible issues the union could take up on behalf of UCSF’s postdocs include childcare, retirement, vacation (instead of “time off”).

**Graduate Division move to Mission Bay**
Graduate Division move to Mission Bay delayed to 2009.

**Proposed Program: Science & Technology Studies in Medicine (STSM)**
The new STSM budget proposal will be sent soon to Sam Hawgood, Interim Dean, School of Medicine. When the budget is approved at UCSF, the proposal will go to CCGA.

**Doctorate in Physical Therapy**
Currently the third year doctorate in Physical Therapy is self-funded. The department is exploring how this will change as the doctorate becomes the standard required degree for the profession.

**Fundraising for graduate education**
Nothing in writing yet. Jim Asp has left UCSF.

**Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accreditation Process**
The first site visit to UCSF is scheduled for February 2009.

**Allowing state-supported students access to self-supporting programs**
This issue will be discussed further in 2008-09.

**Graduate Student Association (GSA) Report – John Fecondo, GSA Chair**
In 2008-09 GSA:
- Seeks to provide more funding for conference travel awards.
- Will collaborate with PSA on events and seminars.
- Will watch what will happen to 24-hour study space in Genentech hall and at the Kalamanowitz library
- Will try to make career and research days self-supporting by selling ad space in the event program.

**Postdoctoral Scholars Association (PSA) Report – Laurie Stepanek, PSA Chair**
For 2008-09, PSA has planned:
- Mentoring dinners in the fall: 8 postdocs and a few faculty, often focused on specific issues such as imaging, stem cells or work-life issues.
- Mentoring award in the fall to two faculty. Want to publicize better.

**Clinical Research External Review Report Response from the MAS Program – Ed Yelin and Farid Chehab**
The Graduate Council agreed to invite Deb Grady, Jeff Martin, and/or Bob Hyatt to clarify the present and future role of the program in CTSI. Key issues include financial aid, access to courses, diversity and the relationship to CTSI.
Neuroscience External Review Report – Jeff Lansman and Farid Chehab
Invite the Dean of the School of Medicine or Keith Yamamoto, Executive Vice Dean to a Graduate Council meeting to lend support for Lou Reichard’s requests for funds from the departments and institutes. Graduate Council will also draft a closeout letter to L. Reichard to finish the process telling him that the issue of support will be researched (UCSD-Saulk) and Graduate Council will make a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee.

Medical Anthropology
Ask Vincanne Adams for an update letter on the Medical Anthropology program.

Two tracks within the PhD program in Biological and Medical Informatics (BMI) – Pat Calarco
Update will be available at the next meeting from Patsy ?? (second in command to Tom Ferrin). The main issue is that although there is a single PhD program for BMI, there are two tracks in the program: the established program and the program led by David Avrin.

Appointment of Council Liaisons for Academic Program Reviews for 2008-09 (TETRAD, PSPG, Nursing) - Jeff Lansman
- PSPG – Liz Watkins
- TETRAD – Robert Raffai
- Nursing PhD program – Nancy Stotts

Old Business
None.

New Business
None.

Chair Lansman adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Senate Analyst Heather Alden