



GRADUATE COUNCIL AGENDA

January 22nd, 2024

To: Graduate Council

Mr. Hassan Anderson, Chair; Drs. Sourav Banerjee, Kenneth Campbell, Besim Dragovic, Jing Fang, Edie Goldsmith, Dianna Inman, Marketa Kubickova, Amy Lehman, William Matchin, Terrance McAdoo, David Reisman, Wendy Regoeczi, Sheri Silfies, Sriram Venkataraman, Nick Watanabe, Neal Woods, Christina Yao, Gaurav Harshe, GSA; Murray Mitchell (Secretary).

CC: President Michael Amiridis, Provost Donna Arnett, Trena Houpp, Deans, Department Chairs, Graduate Directors, and Graduate Program Administrators

From: Dr. Ann Vail, Dean of the Graduate School

The Graduate Council will meet in person on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 2:00p.m. in Room #583 of the Close-Hipp Building.

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Hassan Anderson, Chair)
2. **Approval of the Minutes from December 11, 2023.** Approved actions by Graduate Council become effective 30 days after posting. A copy is available on the Graduate School website at: <https://bit.ly/3SvPO0E>.
3. **Report of the Chair** (Hassan Anderson)
4. **Report of the Dean of the Graduate School** (Ann Vail)
5. **Report on Professional Development** (Wright Culpepper)
6. **Report of the Graduate Student Association** (Gaurav Harshe)
7. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Terrance McAdoo)
8. **Report of the 500/600 Level Courses** (Jean Ellis for Murray Mitchell)

This report is presented to Council for informational purposes only; no action is necessary.

500/600 Courses for January 2024 Grad Council

(CCP = Course Change Proposal; NCP=New Course Proposal). Total: 1

EXCE 610 (3) Neuroscience of Human Performance (NCP: Summer 2024)

9. Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations (Jean Ellis for Murray Mitchell)

None at this time.

10. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee (Edie Goldsmith)

11. Graduate Student Awards (Jean Ellis)

12. Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Jing Fang)

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Total: 2

- **Nurse Anesthesia, M.N.A** (Program Inactivation: Fall 2025)
- **Environmental Health Sciences, Ph.D.**, (Program Change: Fall 2025)

13. Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Wendy Regoeczi)

None at this time.

14. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (David Reisman)

15. Other Committee Reports

16. Old Business

- Update on Incomplete Grade Policy (Jean Ellis for Murray Mitchell)
- Update on progress regarding “quorum” definition (Jean Ellis for Murray Mitchell)
- Update on progress regarding a Graduate Attendance Policy (Jean Ellis for Murray Mitchell)

17. New Business

18. Good of the Order

19. Adjournment

The Graduate School – Graduate Student Awards AY 23-24

Additional award details and deadlines will be announced in February. All nominees (except the outstanding dissertation award) must be enrolled in the Spring 2024 semester.

Dean's Award for Doctoral Achievement Award (\$1000)

\$1000 is given to one graduate student in any doctoral program who demonstrates overall excellence in research, teaching, and service. The service contributions can extend beyond campus.

The committee will consider the following:

- Student's impact and accomplishments within research, teaching, and service
- The ability for the student to describe their significant accomplishments (one page)
- One-page support letter from the Graduate Director, advisor, or mentor
- CV or resume from the student (not to exceed two pages)

Dean's Award for Master's Achievement Award (\$1000)

\$1000 is given to one graduate student in any master's program who demonstrates overall excellence in research, teaching, and service. The service contributions can extend beyond campus.

The committee will consider the following:

- Student's impact and accomplishments within research, teaching, and service
- The ability for the student to describe their significant accomplishments (one page)
- One-page support letter from the Graduate Director, advisor, or mentor
- CV or resume from the student (not to exceed two pages)

Outstanding Dissertation Award (up to two awards, \$1000/each)

Winners of the USC competition will be nominated for the CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award.

- Completed dissertations that make a significant contribution to their discipline.
- Been awarded a doctoral degree or completed doctoral degree requirements between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2023
- Nominations include a dissertation abstract, three letters of recommendation, and five-page nominee CV
- No more than one nomination can be submitted from a unit

Outstanding Community Engagement Award (\$1000)

\$1,000 is given to one graduate student who demonstrates substantial impact and engagement experiences related to community service, social advocacy, civic engagement, and/or volunteer opportunities conducted between the Summer of 2023 and the Spring 2024 academic semester.

The committee will consider the following:

- Student's contribution to community engagement
- One-page support letter from project supervisor, collaborator, or mentor
- The ability for the student to describe their activities and accomplishments (one page)
- CV or resume from the student (not to exceed two pages)

Outstanding Research Award (\$1000)

\$1,000 is given to one graduate student who conducts superlative research.

The committee will consider the following:

- Substantial research outputs relevant to the area of expertise (publications, grants, creative works, etc.)
- The ability of the student to explain their research and its importance to a broad academic audience (one page)
- Faculty assessment of the student's research significance and their contribution to the research outputs
- CV or resume from the student (not to exceed two pages)

Excellence in Access and Opportunity Award (\$1000)

One award is given annually, and one graduate student.

The committee will consider the following:

- Substantial achievements and/or advocacy related to access, opportunity, diversity, equity, and inclusion conducted between the Summer of 2023 and the Spring 2024 academic semester.
- One-page support letter from project supervisor, collaborator, or mentor
- The ability for the student to describe their achievement and/or advocacy
- CV or resume from the student (not to exceed two pages)

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award (two awards, \$1000/each)

Two \$1000 awards are given annually. Instructors of record and GTA/Lab Instructors are eligible. There will be one award from the following academic disciplines:

- Humanities, Social Sciences, Education or Related Professional Programs
- Science, Mathematics, or Related Professional Programs

The committee will consider the following for Instructor of Record nominations:

- Teaching evaluations from Spring 2023, Summer 2023, and/or Fall 2023 semesters
- One-page teaching philosophy from the graduate student
 - The ability of the graduate student to describe their teaching philosophy and the quality of teaching as demonstrated by their teaching evaluations
 - Optional – Teaching review (conducted by a faculty member)

The committee will consider the following for GTA / Lab Instructor nominations:

- One-page teaching philosophy from the graduate student
- One-page letter from a faculty member who can evaluate the nominee's teaching during the Spring 2023, Summer 2023, or Fall 2023 semesters
- Optional – Student evaluations