In fulfilling its charge as established in the Bylaws of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, the Graduate Council (GC) carried out the following activities. The chair of the GC during 2008-09 was Professor Ronald Cohen.

Note: items are listed chronologically in each section. Dates in parentheses, unless otherwise noted, indicate the date of correspondence.

I. Departments Reviewed

- Department of Scandinavian
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Mary Firestone (9/17/08).

- Department of German
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (9/24/08).

- School of Law
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (11/12/08).

- Department of Astronomy
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (11/16/08).

- Department of Materials Science and Engineering
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (2/3/09).

- Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (2/6/09).

- Department of Art Practice
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (3/4/09).

II. Graduate Group Reviews

- Follow-up to Review of Graduate Group in Medieval Studies
  Request for additional information sent to Group Chair Steven Justice (3/4/09). Chair Justice responded in a letter to Chair Cohen (4/14/09). GC response sent to Chair Justice (5/22/09).

- Graduate Group in Range Management
  Comments forwarded to Group Chair James Bartolome (5/22/09). Response from Group requested by 12/1/09.

1 Not all departmental reviews were completed during the academic year.
Graduate Group in Comparative Biochemistry
Comments forwarded to Group Chair Fenyong Liu (5/26/09). Response from Group requested by 12/1/09.

III. Finished Business

A. Completed with Written Comment

- Report on the Professional Doctorate
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (9/29/08).

- Inquiry regarding Senate Regulation 686 and Academic Residency for Concurrent Master’s Degrees
  Letter sent to Committee on Rules and Elections Chair Daniel Melia (10/27/08).
    - Response received from Chair Melia (6/11/09).

- Proposed Name Change for the Department of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (11/17/08).

- Response to Chancellor Robert Birgeneau’s “Access and Excellence” Vision Statement
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (2/4/09).

- Request from Department of French regarding Foreign Language Requirement for Ph.D. Students
  Approval sent to Department Chair Ann Smock (2/11/09).

- Proposed Discontinuance of the Graduate Group in Agricultural and Environmental Chemistry
  Approval forwarded to Graduate Group Chair Anastasios Melis (2/11/09).

- Proposed Cuts to Early Childhood Education Program
  Comments forwarded to Division Chair Firestone (2/12/09).

- Proposal for a Designated Emphasis in Folklore
  Request for additional information sent to Professor Charles Briggs (10/16/08). Approval sent to Professor Briggs (4/21/09).

- Proposal for M.A. and Ph.D. Degrees in Transnational Gender and Women’s Studies
  Request for additional information sent to Professor Juana Maria Rodriguez (12/9/08). Approval sent to Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Welfare Sheldon Zedeck (4/21/09).

- Proposal for a Designated Emphasis in Global Metropolitan Studies
Comments forwarded to Professors Ananya Roy and Richard Walker (5/26/09).

B. Completed without Written Comment
   • Campaign for Berkeley
     Graduate Division Director of Development Kasia Allen and Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri reported on the Campaign for Berkeley, particularly as it relates to graduate education funding, to GC members at the 9/15/08 meeting.

   • Suspension of Changes to the Dean’s Normative Time Fellowship
     In fall 2007, the GC approved the suspension of any changes to the Dean’s Normative Time Fellowship (DNTF). GC approved a continuation of this suspension for the 2008-09 academic year at its 10/13/09 meeting.

   • Status of Graduate Groups
     Dean Szeri reported on the status of graduate groups to GC members at the 10/13/08 meeting.

   • Proposed Changes to Philosophy Graduate Program Requirements
     Approved as a consent calendar item at the 11/10/08 meeting.

   • Proposed Changes to Italian Studies Graduate Program Requirements
     Approved as a consent calendar item at the 11/10/08 meeting.

   • Graduate-level Non-UNEX Certificates
     The GC endorsed a system of certificate review at UC Berkeley that former GC Chair Ilan Adler proposed in a 7/17/18 letter to Committee on Rules and Elections Chair Daniel Melia for graduate-level certificates that meet the criteria outlined in Senate Regulation 735 and those that do not at its 11/10/09 meeting.

   • Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Award Recipients
     The GC endorsed Marianne Constable (Professor of Rhetoric) as the recipient of the 2009 Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Award for UC Berkeley Faculty and Armani Nuru-Jeter (Assistant Professor of the School of Public Health) as the recipient of the 2009 Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Award for UC Berkeley Junior Faculty at its 4/6/09 meeting.

IV. Unfinished Business

None