MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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Fresno, California 93740-8027

Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

January 22, 2013

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), C. Fry Bohlin, T. Lopez, N.P. Mahalik, R. Raeisi, D. Vera, S. Brown-Welty , T. Wein,

Members Absent: P. Trueblood (excused)

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 2:00 p.m. in TA #117.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the minutes as amended for December 11, 2012.

2. Agenda. MSC to approve the agenda as distributed.

3. Communications and Announcements.

1. Dean Brown-Welty announced changes to the Graduate Symposium this year. We will combine our presentations with the Central California Research and Creative Activity Symposium, being joined by schools like UCSF and UC Merced. We will also initiate new modalities of presentation such as round tables, in addition to the standard poster and paper sessions.
2. Dean Brown-Welty met this week with the Provost’s leadership team to present the findings of her seminar that sought to redesign the Program Review policy. The Provost is adding some support for this assessment through departments, and will involve the Assessment coordinators from each College. She will meet with the Council of Department Chairs next week, and is trying to get on the A P & P schedule.
3. Chair Wilson asked that we be given the WASC standards to review.
4. Chair Wilson has scheduled Nursing for next week.

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4. Program Review discussions: Psychology; Chemistry

1. Discussion and recommendations for Psychology Program Review.

There are two program housed in this department: the MA and the Ed.S. The committee voted to denominate the MA Program one of Exceptional Quality. We praised the department for the high standards evinced, for the longevity of its program, and for its contributions to Community needs through its Autism Center.

The committee voted to denominate the Ed. S. Program one of Exceptional Quality, as well. We were impressed especially by the 100% employment rate this option provides

In both cases, however, the committee noted its reservation about the sustainability of such excellence. It comes at the price of high demands on faculty time and energy. Without new faculty hires, the committee believes that the excellence demonstrated by the Department of Psychology will be damaged.

b) Discussion and recommendations for Chemistry Program Review

The committee voted to denominate the Chemistry Program one of Quality and Promise. The committee praised the proactive work of the program in applying for an NSF grant to enhance recruitment. Their awareness of further needs, such as the development of community partnerships and outreach, puts them on target to add significantly to the program’s impact. We noted room for improvement with regards to the assessment activities conducted on students’ skills in scientific research.

1. Discussion of Policy for Dual-listed Courses

We carefully combed through yet another iteration of the document. One of the items we needed to clarify is the status of Topics courses, which will be excluded from the possible category because dual-listed courses must go through the Graduate Curriculum Committee. The

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document seems much clearer. Concerns were raised about the implications of the policy for faculty workload. Dean Brown-Welty suggested that the remedy existed, because the creation of such courses was voluntary and had to originate from the faculty. We will revisit the policy and the document one more time before submitting it to the Academic Senate for approval.

1. MSC: to adjourn at 3:00 pm

The next scheduled meeting for the Graduate Committee is Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 2 pm in TA 117.

Agenda:

1.     Approval of the Minutes of 1/22/13

2.     Approval of the Agenda.

3.     Communications and Announcements.

4. New Options in Nursing: Time Certain 2:15

5. Discussion of dual-listed, co-scheduled course policy