

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

November 17, 2009

Members Present: T. Skeen (Chair), S. Brown-Welty K. Carey, N. Mahalik,  
M. Stevens, Z. Wang, R. Yazdipour.

Members Absent: S. Skelton (excused).

Visitors: C. Radke.

The meeting was called to order by Chair T. Skeen at 2:00 p.m. in the Thomas Administration Building, Room #117.

1. Minutes: MSC to approve the Minutes of November 3, 2009.
2. Agenda: MSC to approve the Agenda as distributed.
3. Communications and Announcements.

Dean K. Carey reported that information about the symposium has been distributed widely so that faculty can include the date on their syllabi for the spring 2010 semester. She is hoping to have a bigger turn-out than last year.

4. Graduate Research Merit Awards.

A letter was received from Dr. Marilyn Wilson with suggestions on how to improve the Graduate Research and Scholarly Activities Merit Awards. Her proposal included having more input at the department level. The committee discussed the proposed changes and it was decided that the awards were intended to support research at an early stage and therefore it could not be absolutely determined if the research was meritorious. Since the intent was to support research endeavors, the following motion was approved:

MSC to change the title of the Graduate Research and Scholarly Activities Merit Award to "Graduate Research and Scholarly Activities Support Award", and that proposals should provide a budget which includes substantiation for all expenditures.

5. Thesis Plagiarism.

Dean K. Carey discussed the issue of plagiarism and described several cases that had taken place recently or in the recent past. The committee discussed the possibility of thesis, project, and dissertation student's going through a plagiarism workshop that is currently offered on campus.

It was noted that an online course that provides a certificate of completion would be ideal and that the certificate would need to be presented by the student to the department before the thesis/project/dissertation received final approval.

Dean K. Carey offered to follow-up on the possibility of the current workshops being moved to an on-line venue and will report her findings at a future meeting.

MSC to adjourn at 2:35 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Graduate Committee is Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at the Thomas Administration Bldg., Room #117.

Agenda.

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 17, 2009.
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Communications and Announcements.
4. Antelope Valley Engineering Program.