MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

September 8, 2015

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), R. Raeisi, P. Trueblood, D. Vera, S. Tracz, T. Skeen, A. Nambiar, M. Lopez, J. Marshall

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 2:05 p.m. in TA #117

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the minutes of Sept 1, 2015
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the agenda as distributed.

3. Communications and Announcements:

* Dean Marshall proposed moving to an electronic process for graduate level program review (similar to undergrad) to the committee. This would be items such as program change, course approval, signing off on forms, anything that first comes through to curriculum committee. The process would be via BIZFLOW (or something similar). The greatest advantage is knowing where a proposal is. It was determined that the UGC does not receive that many and we could try it this year.
* Dean Marshall reported interior changes in Graduate Division office; improvements to make seating area more attractive; change in sign on door, and new reception and program review areas.

4. UGC input on APM 311: TA Policy

Dean Marshall gave an overview, noting some modifications had been made to reflect what is currently being done. The primary addition was language for the tuition waiver for TAs. The policy on tuition waiver was created by ad hoc committee. Dean Marshall asked Grad Committee to review the policy as only graduate students can be TAs.

Discussion/Concerns from committee members:

1. Section V heading misspelled (Remuneration)
2. Section I. #3 contradicts #4 (check language referring to 20 hours)
3. Section VI, #5: Some programs want to use policy to attract grad students; others may want equal distribution among grad students;
4. committee says department will determine; college will distribute based on previous year. Only 4 colleges have TA’s currently; Senate will need to debate
5. Are doctoral students eligible? A TA has to teach undergrad course; therefore DPT would not be able to TA in the doctoral program; could TA in another department or undergrad course? Another consideration was the higher tuition for those in doctoral programs and how this could fit into the limited funding available for the TA waivers.
6. Section VI, #3a remove Masters to read “graduate students” so doctoral students could be included. It appears international students would not be eligible due to FAFSA requirement. This should be clarified.
7. Section IV, #2 Qualifications: “unclassified not eligible” but 3d, can be unclassified for 1 semester; c & d not consistent

Dean Marshall will take this committees concerns/questions back to ad hoc Committee on our behalf. From there it will go to the Executive Board of the Senate and then to floor of Academic Senate. The goal would be to get this to Senate by September so it can be voted on by October and could possibly be implemented in January 2016 which could help existing programs. Provost has money budgeted for spring to use for this.

5. Discussion of the future for Graduate Research Symposium moved to next meeting

MSC to adjourn at 3:05 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Graduate Committee is Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in TA 117.

Agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of 8/08/15
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Communications and Announcements
4. Discussion of the future for Graduate Research Symposium