# MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE

# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

# 5241 N. Maple, M/S TA 43

# Fresno, California 93740-8027

# Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

October 1, 2013

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), S. Witte, M. Lopez, A. Nambiar, R. Raeisi, P. Trueblood, T. Wein, D. Vera

Members Absent: C. Fry Bohlin

Guests: Julie Steele, student; Dr. Alam Hassan, Department of Chemistry; Dr. Samuel Omalayo, Department of Geography

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

Agenda:

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the Minutes of 9/17/13.
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the agenda as distributed.
3. Communications and Announcements.
   1. Dean Witte noted that Chuck Radke made an excellent presentation re: the Graduate Writing Studio to the Provost's Leadership Team.
4. Discussion of proposal for Interdisciplinary M.S. CHEM/EES/GEOG for Julie Steele.
   1. Chair Wilson welcomed the guests.
   2. Chair Wilson asked the invitees to provide any update or added information for the committee in addition to the proposal that came to the university graduate committee.
   3. Ms. Steele reiterated the program’s rationale and added that the proposal is based on several similar programs currently available outside of California.
   4. Committee members voiced several concerns regarding the proposed plan, highlighting particularly the number of independent units included in the proposal, the fact that no graduate-level EES courses were included in the plan, and the fact that the program description and justification do not seem to fit the proposed curriculum. Ms. Steele clarified that these issues are due in great part to the availability of courses. No related graduate-level courses are offered by the EES program; accordingly, her work with this department will be limited to undergraduate courses (not to exceed the acceptable number of such units). Ms.

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Steele also brought attention to the fact that at least one of the independent courses listed is in fact a course opened for registration to students in the Water Management program only. However, Dr. Samuel Omalayo (instructor of record) explained, while registered for independent units with him, Ms. Steele will in fact take the actual course and be graded accordingly. Chair Wilson requested that the program proposal be resubmitted, this time including syllabi for each course, including the independent units.

* 1. Dean Witte queried the guests regarding the number of thesis-related units included in the proposed program, which seem to be in excess of the accepted six. Ms. Steele and Dr. Hassan, chair of her committee, will clarify in the revised proposal which units are directly related to the thesis.
  2. Committee members also voiced several concerns regarding the proposal’s format. In response, Dr. Witte requested that Ms. Steele work with the Graduate Writing Studio to rework the language and presentation of some of the proposal’s sections.

1. MSC: to adjourn at 2:42 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting for the Graduate Committee is Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 2:00 pm in HML 2127 for Biz Flow training.

AGENDA:

1. Approval of the minutes of 10/1/2013

2. Approval of the agenda for 10/15/2013

3. Communications and announcements

4. Biz Flow training