

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5200 N. Barton Ave M/S UL34
Fresno, California 93740-8014
Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

February 20th 2024

Member Present: M. López (Chair), J. Goto (ex officio), A. Hoskins, D. Lent, N. Mahalik

Members Absent : M. Crawford, L. Diala, S. Hernandez

Guests: N/A

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Chair López.

- I. MSC to approve the minutes from February 13, 2024
- II. MSC to approve the agenda for February 20, 2024
- III. Communication and Announcements
 - J. Goto – technical review of upcoming MFA proposal highlighted significant discrepancies between catalog and proposal. Should tech reviews consistently check proposal language vs. catalog copy to identify any other such discrepancies? UGC members agreed that yes, such a layer of additional review is desirable. J. Goto will have her office do the most thorough technical review.
 - J. Goto – new DRGS staff members will be introduced at each of the colleges.
 - Chair Lopez – should UGC substantive changes to the MA/MS in Interdisciplinary Studies policy and procedure be reviewed by others? J. Goto said that it should go to Exec, but that it should first go to her office for technical review. Chair Lopez to send to DRGS.
 - J. Goto – DRGS office is working on a new submission process for accelerated programs.
 - Chair Lopez – re: APM 206 – proposed changes to the policy do not address course approval. Online courses need to be proposed to go along with online programs. J. Goto mentioned that there is a difference between a course and a program that are currently in-person and need to change to online for the program. Chair Lopez commented that the program cannot be online without online courses. J. Goto shared that the review process is currently in place for the graduate program. Chair Lopez commented that courses must go through QLT before submission.
- IV. MSC to approve final version of new Interdisciplinary Studies MA/MS policies and procedures
- V. Option Elevation - MS Mechanical Engineering

- Chair Lopez – the elevation had been approved, DRGS asked for technical changes, the department made other changes, so a new vote is required.
- Chair Lopez – concern remains over lack of clarity in course requirement language. D. Lent suggested that the core courses remain titled core and electives remain electives to avoid confusion of optional.
- Chair Lopez – course units are currently termed “units”; require change to “credits”.
- MSC to approve new changes with edits as per the above.

VI. Catalog Change - MS in Food & Nutritional Science

- Chair Lopez mentioned that the only change was the removal of GRE requirement.
- MSC to approve the removal of the GRE.

VII. Program Conversion - MA Early Childhood Ed.

- Chair Lopez – main concern are impacts of having both a face-to-face and online version of the program concurrently.
 - How will this impact course availability?
 - Will f2f students be able to take online version of courses?
 - How will program assure availability of courses for both programs with the same faculty numbers?
 - D. Lent – how will field work classes work if students are in different states (or countries)?
 - Relatedly, what about faculty workload?
 - Equity in course assignments?
- N. Mahalik – how will programs be differentiated at application/admission stage? differentiated.
- Chair Lopez will invite representatives of the program to a future UGC meeting.

MSC to adjourn at 3:05 p.m.

- I. Approval of Minutes February 20, 2024
- II. Approval of agenda March 5, 2024
- III. Announcements and Updates
- IV. Program Visit - Early Childhood Ed - Online Program