

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

March 15, 2022

Members Present: M. López (Chair), K. Capehart, D. Lent, R. Sias, D. Walker, Aaron Hoskins, Gitima Sharma, Balaji Seth, Joy Goto (ex officio)

Member Excused: Student Rep.

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM by Chair López on Zoom.

I. Minutes: MSC to approve the minutes from March 1, 2022

II. Agenda: MSC to approve the agenda for March 15, 2022

III. Updates, Announcements, and Communications:

- A. Dean Goto: Memo requesting that UGC be added back to the abbreviated program review process was forwarded to AP&P committee. They are still reviewing it.
- B. Development of blended programs: Dean Goto and Chair Lopez attended the meeting. Proposals for blended programs will likely need to be reviewed by UGC. Chair Lopez will keep members apprised.

IV. Option Elevation Proposals: Kinesiology

According to WASC, no substantial changes. Committee members noted that the program also seeks a change in designation, from Master of Arts to Master of Science. Discussion ensued about the difference between the two and whether the program's justification (resonance with national practice) suffices.

Their culminating experience options remain the same. Electives count towards degree completion. Our recommendation is to delete lines regarding electives or explain specifically that electives meet unit requirements towards degree completion if a student chooses the comprehensive exam as the culminating experience.

Members discussed that the number of graduates/graduation rate might be a concern once the three options are elevated. Currently, all three options combined far surpass the 5 graduates per AY requirement. Separately, however, they closely skirt that number. The committee is concerned re: how will they make sure that they are attracting enough applicants and graduating applicants successfully if they make it a stand-alone program. So far they have made it but in 2018, they had 4 graduates. But if the general trend of declining college applications and graduation rates continues, their programs might not be able to sustain themselves.

We need to specify that they need to have clear recruitment plans for each program. They also need to address issues of faculty density. Also, what jobs do students get after graduation?

Overall, it's a strong proposal, but the committee would like clarification regarding the following:

1. Re: enrollment
  - Robust number of applicants, but low enrollment numbers. Do they have data to explain why?
  - Recruitment plans for individual elevated programs?
2. Re: faculty density
  - How will having three separate programs impact faculty-student ratios?
3. Re: comprehensive exams
  - How are they graded? Is there a rubric?
  - rationale for 70% passing percentage?

Chair Lopez will email the Kinesiology program coordinator to ask for rubric for comps and latest SOAP assessment reports.

V. MSC to adjourn at 2:42 PM.

The UGC's next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2022.

Agenda:

- I. Approval of minutes from March 15, 2022
- II. Approval of Agenda for March 22, 2022
- III. Updates and Announcements
- IV. Program Visit: Kinesiology -- Option Elevation Proposals