GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

May 7, 2009

Attending: Kurt Baker, Randall Brown, Bret Carroll, David Colnic, Diana Demetrulias, Carolyn Martin, Chet Jensen, Nathan Lovaa, Peter Nelligan, Andrew Wagner, Shawna Young

Excused: Ann Kohlhaas, Pam Roe, Dennis Sayers, Arnold Schmidt, Ramón Vega de Jesus

Ex-Officio: Sari Miller-Antonio (for Carolyn Stefanco), Ken Potts (for Carl Whitman), Mark Thompson

Guests: Lisa Bernardo, Steven Lee, Roger Pugh

Shawna Young called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Young welcomed Ed.D. Director Steven Lee to the meeting, stating that he will become a member of the Council for the 2009-2010 academic year.

I. Approval of Agenda. The agenda was approved with the following revision:
   A. Add item III A. Announcement (Miller-Antonio).

II. Approval of April 23, 2009 Minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Information and Announcements
   A. Announcement (Miller-Antonio). Miller-Antonio discussed with Dean Stefanco the participation of deans at Graduate Council. In addition to having Miller-Antonio, the Associate Dean, represent her on Graduate Council, she stated that she is committed to meeting regularly with Graduate Directors in the College, which she does as part of the College Leadership Council.

   B. Questions about Reports (Young). There were no questions.

   C. Enrollment Update (Bernardo). Bernardo reviewed a memorandum regarding the June 1 deadline for admissions applications: All admissions applications for Summer/Fall 2009 will be due on June 1, 2009; after June 1, applications may be accepted on a case-by-case basis. Post-baccalaureate Unclassified (PBU) admissions will be significantly limited, although the Graduate School can continue to use the Provisional admission option as the department’s desire. The University will accept no students applying for second bachelors’ degrees except in nursing and the sciences.

   Pugh discussed changes to calculating master’s-level FTES figures. As of 2006-07, the Chancellor’s Office began calculating master’s-level student FTE based on 24 units rather than 30. CSU Stanislaus has been unable to implement this change internally due to programming issues; Pugh plans to meet with program coordinators in the coming months to determine which specific courses should be considered primarily “master’s-level,” and the programming will be updated so FTE figures can be calculated for those courses based on the 24-unit-per-FTE rate. Additionally, Provost Covino has begun examining the differences in both fees and FTE’s for undergraduate, graduate, and credential students, anticipating that when
enrollment growth funding becomes available in future budget years, differential funding will be redirected to the colleges generating those extra funds.

**D. New Degree Programs (Demetrulias) – Attachment #0809-36.** This is an information item that was also distributed at UEPC. The attachment outlines projected new programs over the next 5 years; these are not officially approved programs, but rather general projections of planned academic programs, contingent upon submission of program proposals for college and university approval and fiscal support.

**IV. Discussion**

**A. Graduate Education Action Planning (Young) – Attachment #0809-34; and #0809-25, #0809-26, #0809-29, #0809-30, & #0809-31, previously distributed.** Attachment #0809-29 was presented to the Council as a rough first attempt at summarizing Council discussion of planning in support of graduate education over the past several meetings.

The Council offered a number of suggestions for revision to the document. The group agreed that the document should be revised to list goals in slightly broader terms, and then rephrase the current "recommendations" as methods and mechanisms for achieving those goals, and finally, list supporting data to defend the recommended methods. Young will revise Attachment #0809-29 based on today's discussion and the Council will revisit this topic next year.

Nelligan noted that this discussion originated with the need for a well-thought-out, updated planning document to demonstrate to WASC that the Graduate Council is recommending goals and plans for reaching them; with that in mind, the question arises of whether the document should be considered primarily internal as has been suggested in past discussion, or treated as a public document.

**B. Doctoral Education (Demetrulias) – Attachment #0809-24 previously distributed.** This attachment is a list of discussion points regarding doctoral education and possible actions to establish and document policies and procedures specific to doctoral education at CSU Stanislaus. Especially important are procedures for academic program review and dissertation processing at the university levels.

Following the discussion, the Council agreed unanimously to establish a working subcommittee for the academic year 2009-2010 to review potential doctoral-level policy and make recommendations to the Council. It was also noted that a workgroup would not necessarily be made up entirely of Council members; the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, for example, consists of several faculty members who are not otherwise involved in the Graduate Council.

Lee gave some background information on the Executive Council, the governance group currently in place within the Ed.D. program. It was clarified that this proposed Graduate Council workgroup would work in collaboration with the Ed.D. Executive Council with the goal of examining together the policies the Executive Council has put in place at the program level and generalizing those policies to the University level as appropriate. In addition, the workgroup would be charged with identifying additional policies needed at the University level and, eventually, establishing and implementing those policies.

**C. Annual Report (Young) – Attachment #0809-35.** Young presented her annual report, which will be submitted to the Academic Senate and presented at the General Faculty meeting. The annual report was revised slightly to emphasize the Council’s desire for college deans' involvement in Council activities and concerns.

Prior to adjourning, the Council members thanked Young for her leadership in the 2008-2009 academic year.

Shawna Young adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Alyssa Mazzina