



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

GRADUATE SCHOOL

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

January 29, 2009

Attending: Bret Carroll, David Colnic, Diana Demetrulias, Chet Jensen, Ann Kohlhaas, Pam Roe, Margaret Tynan, Ramon Vega de Jesus, Shawna Young (for Peter Nelligan)

Excused: Kurt Baker, Randall Brown, Carolyn Martin, Dennis Sayers, Arnold Schmidt, Andrew Wagner

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

Guests: Lisa Bernardo

Shawna Young called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

I. Approval of Agenda. The agenda was approved with the following revision:

- A. Add item IIIB. Administrative Support (Young)
- B. Add item IIIC. IS Director Position (Young)
- C. Item VA. Exception to Approved Master's Degree Program Requirements title has been changed to Petition/Appeal of University Requirements.

II. Approval of January 15, 2009 Minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Information and Announcements

- A. **Questions about Reports (Young).** The Academic Senate Report has been sent electronically for the Council to review. There were no Graduate Council updates from the Associated Students, Faculty Budget Advisory Committee, Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Policy Committee, or the Vice Provost.
- B. **Administrative Support (Young).** The Council was informed that Raichelle Owens, Graduate Council Recording Secretary, will be going on maternity leave. Alyssa Mazzina will be replacing her in the interim. R. Owens will send an email to Council members with key contact information for future reference.
- C. **MA/MS Interdisciplinary Studies Director Position (Young).** D. Sayers's current term as MA/MS Interdisciplinary Studies Director will be ending, and he will not be seeking reappointment. A draft copy of the IS Director Responsibilities was distributed for review. Any suggestions or revision should be forwarded to Shawna Young. The final draft will be forwarded to SEC for review. The position is expected to be filled by the end of spring.

IV. Discussion

- A. **Graduate Assessment—Assessment Plan & Report (Demetrulias) —Attachment #0809-5 previously distributed.** During the last Graduate Council meeting, review of the Assessment Plan & Report was completed. The Council will revisit this document as needed when revisions are made to reflect Graduate Council discussions.
- B. **Graduate Assessment –Graduate Portfolios (Demetrulias) –Attachment #0809-13.** The Council continued discussing the revised draft copy of the Graduate Student Portfolios Pilot Program document. The pilot will

not be included in the Assessment Plan and Report at this time. However, programs that would like to use the pilot may do so if they choose.

- C. **Graduate Assessment—Alumni Survey (Demetrulias) –Attachment #0809-12 previously distributed.** The Council reviewed the 2007 Alumni Survey. The Graduate School is working with Institutional Research to increase the response rate. It was suggested that individual departments be contacted for comprehensive alumni contact information. It was also suggested that a subcommittee is formed to determine what information should be gained from the survey. Suggestions will be provided on how to redesign the survey so that it is more purposeful. The subcommittee, comprised of D. Colnic and S. Young, will meet and report back to the Council at a later time.
- D. **Graduate Assessment –Summary of usefulness of IDEA Program Reports for Criminal Justice, Psychology, School Administration, and Social Work (Nelligan, Baker, Jensen/Borba, and Tynan).** M. Tynan reported that the Social Work program felt the IDEA program report was very useful. Ten out of twelve objectives were direct indicators of program assessment.

S. Young, for P. Nelligan, reported that the Criminal Justice program thought the report was of very limited use. Only six of the thirty-five classes taught during the five year time period were covered in this dataset. Based on this limited data, it is difficult to distinguish how students experience the entire program.

S. Young, for K. Baker, reported that the Psychology program did not feel like the report was useful. The report includes only courses for which the instructor requested an evaluation and there is no way to know which courses were used. Due to this, there could be major gaps in the data providing no way to draw any meaningful conclusions about the program as a whole.

- E. **Graduate Assessment—Graduate Culture (Demetrulias) – Attachment #0809-4 previously distributed.** The Council resumed discussion of graduate culture. The information from the discussion will be used to demonstrate our response to the WASC standard as to how a graduate academic culture is created and supported at our institution. Discussion will continue at the February meeting.
- F. **Graduate Education Strategic Plan (Young).** Deferred.
- G. **WASC CPR Site Visit Team Report (Demetrulias).** Deferred.
- H. **Academic Program Review (Demetrulias) – Attachment #0809- 16 previously distributed.** Deferred.
- I. **CGS/Peterson’s Award for Innovation in Promoting an Inclusive Graduate Community (Demetrulias).** Deferred.
- J. **GA/TA Fundraising (Young).** Deferred.
- K. **Policy on Graduate Academic Advising (Young) –Attachment #0809-14 previously distributed.** Deferred.
- L. **Accreditation Money and Uses (Colnic).** Historically the University offered funds for reaccreditation reports. A few years ago, this task has been decentralized to the colleges. It was suggested that the Council may wish to consider a resolution to the Academic Senate reaffirming the importance of accreditation to programs during the budget crisis. The Council determined that the specific concern had been resolved, and no formal resolution was warranted at this time.

V. Action

- A. **Petition/Appeal of University Requirements (Young)–Attachment #0809-6 revised.** The Council continued deliberations on the revised draft procedures relating to substitution of courses in approved master’s degree programs. A motion was made by Chet Jensen to approve the form contingent upon modifications. Bret Carroll seconded the motion. The motion carried.

VI. Reports

- A. **Academic Senate Report (Young).** Susan Marshall, General Education Director, provided an update on the assessment plan for General Education. The Academic Program Review plan for GE will be presented to Senate this spring.

Charles Holmberg and Carl Whitman provided an overview of the draft CSU system policy. Faculty is being strongly encouraged to read the draft policy and to provide feedback to Holmberg, Whitman, or the Technology and Learning Subcommittee of the UEPC by March 2, 2009.

The UEPC statement was discussed as a first reading item and will be brought back to Senate for consideration as a second reading item at the February 17, 2009 meeting.

- B. Associated Students Report (TBD).** Deferred.
- C. Faculty Budget Advisory Committee Report—FBAC (Brown).** Deferred.
- D. Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Policy Committee (Baker).** Deferred.
- E. Vice Provost (Demetrulias).** Deferred.

Shawna Young adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Raichelle Owens