

California State University, Stanislaus
Graduate Council
Meeting Minutes **December 9, 2021**
VIRTUAL via Zoom

PRESENT: K. Baker (chair), V. Montero-Hernandez (chair-elect), A. Dorsey, B. Wolfe-Hunnicut, C. Martin, J. Garcia, D. Bukko, J. Garcia, P. Hauselt, S. Whitehead, S. Wooley, D. Nakano, H. Ye, O. Myhre, K. Knutson-Miller, V. Cortez

GUESTS: E. Hake (recording), L. Bernardo

- I. Call to Order.** Baker called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda.** The agenda of December 9, 2021 was approved.
- III. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of November 18, 2021 were approved as distributed.

IV. Information, Announcements, Reports

- A.** This is the last semester for Peggy Hauselt as Interdisciplinary Studies Director. Position is open to tenure-track or tenured faculty. It is a 3-year position.
- B.** President's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion (PCDI) Action Plan was reintroduced at Academic Senate on Tuesday. It will be distributed to council for suggestions.

V. New Business

- A. MDIS 4536.** The new course "*MDIS 4536 The Pursuit of Graduate Education: Learning, Academic Socialization and Empowerment*" has been initiated in Curriculog. The purpose of course is for students to develop academic skills necessary at the graduate level; help students identify how their cultural background, understanding, and awareness will affect their educational journey; promote student empowerment and self-sufficiency; and engage in construction of their professional identity. Course is one unit, one hour per week. Any graduate programs can suggest their students to take this course.
 - There were concerns over the course's one unit, 4000-level status. Graduate students may not take this course because one unit would not move them along quickly enough toward units needed to graduate. However, 3 units may be too high for some programs in regard to scheduling and commitment. Additionally, graduate students are limited on the number of 4000-level courses they can take.
 - Cross listing 4000 and 5000 level would be ideal so that undergraduate and graduate students can both receive credit for the course. Concerns regarding this include the difference in goals for undergraduate and graduate students taking this course; undergraduates may be interested in graduate school and application processes, whereas graduate

students are more interested in preparing for the professional world. Enrollment Services can cap enrollment separately for graduate and undergraduate students.

- Clarify what “hybrid” should mean (synchronous/asynchronous/in-person) so that students are aware of their commitment in taking this course.
- Montero-Hernandez will re-consult on how to best propose and list this course with the Council’s suggestions in mind.

B. Counselor Education Elevation Proposal. Council reviewed the proposal in curriculum. *Counselor Education Concentration in Master of Arts in Education* is requesting to be elevated to a stand-alone degree *Masters in Counseling with Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential or Professional Clinical Counselor (PCC) Option*. This will align with Executive Order 1071. Curriculum is staying the same. Elevation will better reflect the curriculum and career trajectory of students in the program. Most universities offer a *Masters in Counseling*. The *Master of Arts in Education* has outlived its purpose. The proposed stand-alone degree is a mental health counselor degree where graduates are typically not in an educational or school setting but rather working as licensed counselors in behavioral health settings. Council will vote on this proposal via email.

C. 7005 Course Compensation. Deferred.

VI. Old Business

A. Equity and Inclusion in Graduate Council Structure and Practices. Currently, a faculty member cannot become a member of Graduate Council unless they are a director/chair/coordinator of a graduate program or unless they are interested in becoming chair of the Council.

- From Diversity Equity Inclusion Plan perspective, there is a necessity for the council to be overt in their actions to ensure that the voices in departments and programs are heard. Directors and coordinators may have knowledge on institutional workings that regular faculty may not; however, this knowledge can be shared with non-director faculty. Is it truly necessary that a chair or director needs to be on GC or could each department appoint or elect faculty they feel could participate and effectively represent their program? Through the lens of structural/institutional racism, and for marginalized individuals, there may be an issue of equity when considering who is offered or able to pursue director/chair positions. However, there is still value in faculty pursuing these positions and the professional development that this process provides. Attendance might increase if there is a set of potential attendees for each department. Allow departments to analyze their own faculty’s trajectories and goals. Votes not as critical as the voices. Input

is still critical from non-voting members. Meetings are open and guests are allowed. However, there is a difference for marginalized individuals between being allowed to come as a guest and being invited as a committee member. By not changing charge and membership language, this is sending a message about who is valued and who is not valued. Concerns over release time for participants if attendance is broadened; however, it was clarified that only the chair of the Council gets release time for attending Council meetings.

- University Educational Policies Committee (UEPC) makes major decisions on policy and curriculum but does not have this requirement for voting members.
- Potential to consider voting instead of membership; each program gets one vote but membership can vary to allow different faculty to join the conversation. Concern is that expanding membership would make the committee too large and unwieldy, but condensing to one vote per department could consolidate the different perspectives.
- Reframe to “and” instead of “but” – coordinators and directors can attend AND departments or programs can appoint or elect faculty from their department to attend.

B. Second Master’s Degree Policy. A resolution has been met. Whitehead, Dorsey, Wooley and Bernardo met over the summer regarding the policy for Second Masters degrees. The 17/18 catalog language was significantly different from current catalog; it says second masters degrees not permitted for students in same degree field whereas the current does not have this restriction. Many students pursue similar degrees at different universities due to the differences in curriculum.

- Conclusion is that the current verbiage in the catalog resolves this issue and aligns with “07/AS/19/GC *Second and Dual Degrees and Concentrations Policy*”. Second Masters degrees are allowed.
- Potential issue of, for example, Board of Behavioral Sciences not approving students who want to come back for PCC and PPS, timelines on transcripts. Bernardo is testing potential scenarios in a test database to find a way to transcript courses so that they are in a single record.

C. Graduation Fees. Deferred.

D. Graduate Learning Goals. Deferred.

VII. Tabled Business

A. Graduate Education Action Plan. Deferred.

B. Course Time Module Scheduling Policy Review. Deferred.

VIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Goals for AY 2021-22

1.	Increase graduate student enrollment in programs ready to grow and increase diversity in all programs
2.	Improve graduate students' time to degree rates
3.	Provide support to graduate programs needed to deliver curriculum via remote instruction
4.	Advocate for the unique needs of graduate programs and ensure these needs are addressed
5.	Provide support to graduate programs needed to ensure continuation of field experience activities
6.	Develop mechanisms to retain the positive practices that emerged as a result of teaching during the pandemic
7.	Increase support for grant activities
8.	Increase support for job placement services – we need data on where the jobs are and how we get our students into those positions

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