

California State University, Stanislaus  
Graduate Council Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2020

**Present:** U. Ghuman (chair), A. Mayer (chair-elect), K. Baker, D. Bukko, R. Asher, P. Hauselt, M. Tynan, P. Strauss, K. Kidd, C. Martin, M. Tiscareno, S. Whitehead, B. Hunnicutt, A. Mboka, K. Olivant, D.

Avalos, S. Filling, D. Evans, O. Myhre, T. Arias, J. Bell

**Guests:** L. Bernardo, V. Hernandez, G. Aulak (recording). A. Hor

- I. **Call to Order.** Ghuman called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.
- II. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda of April 16, 2020 was approved as distributed.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of April 9, 2020 were approved as distributed.
  - a. April 9, 2019 was a special meeting that focused on grading options during COVID-19.

**IV. Information, Announcements, Reports**

- a. Suzanne Whitehead informed the committee about potential changes to the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE). Students have been complaining about the Praxis exam for several years now. Students believe it is biased. Dean Myhre's approved replacing the Praxis exam with the CPCE exam. This change will not affect accreditation. This change will be more representative toward the three programs. None of the components for the exam have changed; the exam has always been multiple choice. Members of the council has no objections the change.
- b. Ghuman proposed having another meeting for this semester on May 14, 2020 from 2- 4 p.m. Council had no objections and agreed to meet.

**V. New Business**

- a. **Grading Options.** Graduate Council had a virtual meeting on April 9, 2020 to discuss grading options during COVID-19. Council had decided on multiple options but Senate Executive Committee (SEC) requested one feasible, student centric option. The option is "Letter Grade; A to B-/NC; Withdraw; Incomplete (Incomplete requires agreement of Instructor)". The definition of no credit is C+ and below. Students are under a lot of stress trying to learn online courses. About 1/3 of the students that applied for the emergency care funds are graduate students. Students can choose incomplete and try to finish the course at a later time. It would be realistic to give students a year to catch up. Students can also withdraw from a course and retake it. This option is applied for Spring 2020. Students can initiate the change themselves up to the last day of finals.
  - i. Bukko approved the option but expressed her concern about the load on faculty to advise students and the implications it might have on financial aid.
  - ii. Kidd shared that each program has own unique guidelines to provide to students. Some students are required to have a letter grade. Each program should provide students with cautionary steps.
  - iii. Bernardo clarified that no credit holds no grade point. It does not count against GPA. No credit will affect student's eligibility to receive financial aid in subsequent term. The withdrawal will show on transcript but it will also not affect GPA. Withdrawal might count against a student's further education goals.
  - iv. Baker motioned to move, Avalos seconded, Council unanimously agreed to move grading option for graduate programs as "Letter Grade; A to B-/NC;

Withdraw; Incomplete (Incomplete requires agreement of Instructor)" forward to SEC.

- b. **Graduate Admissions without GRE/GMAT.** Kidd informed membered the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program has a temporary plan in place. Currently, there is no on-site GRE or GMAT exams. GMAT has implemented an online version. GRE is still working on an online option. The Department has a committee in place to look at the requirements. Committee assesses their writing through the objectives in place. This is a temporary change and the program websites have been updated. The MBA program plans to put together a package for the committee to review. Kidd will screen the applicants first and then the three department chairs will review and recommend.
- c. **Best Practices for Thesis/Project Clearance.** Annie Hor joined the meeting. Hor shared the website: [libguides.csustan.edu/covid19/graduate](http://libguides.csustan.edu/covid19/graduate). University Library is accepting Approval form for Thesis, Project or Dissertation Submission and Certification of Approval page of thesis/project/dissertation manuscript through Spring 2020. Council suggested May 15, 2020 as the submission deadline and informing students there is flexibility on the deadline if needed.

#### VI. Old Business.

- a. **Specialized Accreditation Substitution.** Deferred.
- b. **Fee Waiver Pilot Program for Teaching Associates.** Deferred.
- c. **Developing Graduate Writing Support.** Deferred.
- d. **Student involvement in Graduate Dean Search.** Deferred.
- e. **Academic Program Review**
  - i. **English APR.** Deferred.

#### VII. Tabled Business

- a. **Academic Program Review**
  - i. **Public Administration APR.** Deferred.
- b. **Graduate Education Action Plan.** Deferred.
- c. **Course Time Module Scheduling Policy Review.** Deferred.

#### VIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

ug:ga