

California State University, Stanislaus
Graduate Council
Meeting Minutes **September 23, 2021**
VIRTUAL via Zoom

PRESENT: K. Baker (chair), V. Montero-Hernandez (chair-elect), C. Martin, A. Dorsey, B. Wolfe-Hunnicut, J. Garcia, P. Hauselt, S. Whitehead, S. Wooley, S. Ayala, M. Hight, R. Rodriguez, D. Evans, F. Harrison, H. Ye, R. Ogle

GUESTS: G. Aulak (recording)

- I. Call to Order.** Baker called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda.** The agenda of September 23, 2021 was approved as distributed.
- III. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of August 26, 2021 were approved as distributed.

IV. Information, Announcements, Reports

- A.** University Library has 1000 seats total and current average population is 60. The wood panels were replaced by glass panels. Study rooms are available for students. Students participate in their virtual courses in the library. Masks are required and are available at entrance. Staff is preparing for October 1, 2021 repopulation.
- B.** Center for Excellence in Graduate Education (CEGE) has two initiatives to plan for new director. Virginia Montero-Hernandez introduces the two initiatives: 1. pathway to create award for faculty mentorship; 2. a one-unit introduction to graduate school course as an elective for students to develop skills for all programs. Montero-Hernandez will work with Curriculum Specialist to create this course. UEPC will discuss these initiatives in the next meeting.
- C.** Students at Stockton campus have access to more courses in a virtual setting.

V. New Business

- A. Goals for AY 2021-2022.** UEPC reviewed the goals from previous academic year and discussed potential goals for the future.

Some potential goals:

- serve our 6-county region, in particular foothill communities could be increased with increasing our access to those students living hours away, but in our service region;
- promote exploration of learning modalities to increase educational opportunities;
- increase support to be able to reach out to prospective students that justify an increase in resources to the graduate program;
- build graduate program capacity by adopting flexible modality to increase access to all;
- remain flexible in our teaching pedagogies that are sustainable to adapt to ever-changing environmental and global impacts;

- explore non-traditional ways to increase faculty salaries.

Baker and Aulak will send out a survey to coordinators to collect data on potential growth for specific programs.

Goals for AY 2020-21

1.	Maintain graduate student enrollment and diversity at 2019-2020 levels (and admit in the spring 2021): Members- increase instead of maintain.
2.	Maintain graduate students' time to degree rates at 2019-2020 levels. Members: increase instead of maintain.
3.	Provide support to graduate programs needed to deliver curriculum via remote instruction
4	Advocate for the unique needs of graduate programs and ensuring these needs are addressed: Hunnicutt: more TA and GAships needed. Focus on financial assistance for students. Baker: can be more explicit.
5.	Provide support to graduate programs needed to ensure continuation of field experience activities.
6.	Continue to recruit and hire a Graduate Dean in the fall (<i>Accomplished</i>)

VI. Old Business

- A. Fee Waiver Pilot Program for Teaching Associates.** Dean Davis Evans reiterated previous discussions on the fee waiver pilot program for teaching associates. There are salary savings because teaching associates are less WTUs than part-time instructors. The salary savings cover the tuition waiver. Council members had agreed to allow Biology Department to implement tuition waivers for graduate teaching associates. However, due to COVID-19 it has not been implemented yet. Dean Evans will inform the Biology Department to go forward with the implementation Dean Evans will provide results and updates in three years. Haley Ye, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, will be involved in this project.
- B. 7005 Course S-Factor.** Stuart Wooley, AVP Academic Affairs, explained the concerns for 7005 course s-factor. The 7005 course is a graduate course with no credit hours assigned. So, there is no workload. However, some departments have assigned workload on our campus. It is listed as an undergraduate seminar. There is inconsistency. The course classification was an error and it will be corrected. The course classification will not be C36. Wooley is working on a memo to share with faculty.
- C. Modification of GC Bylaws and Constitution.** Graduate Council needs to officially ratify the addition of: Dean of International Studies and Extended Education; Dean of Stockton Campus; and Dean of Graduate Studies and Research. How would we refine the duties of Graduate Studies and Research? Ye left the meeting for this discussion. Baker shared the GC bylaws from 2003. Council will continue discussion in the next meeting.
- D. Grading Policy Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.** The grading policy related to COVID-19 pandemic was voted until fall 2020 and it was not renewed. The rationale for not renewing it was that most of the accredited graduate programs simply can't offer a

CR/NC option to students. Do we need a policy? Council members unanimously agreed that it should be individualized by program instead of a global graduate policy.

- E. **Second Master's Degree Policy.** Deferred.
 - F. **Graduation Fees.** Deferred.
 - G. **Graduate Learning Goals.** Deferred.
 - H. **Workgroup Check-Ins.** Deferred.
- VII. **Tabled Business**
- A. **Graduate Education Action Plan.** Deferred.
 - B. **Course Time Module Scheduling Policy Review.** Deferred.
- VIII. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

KB:ga