

California State University, Stanislaus
Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2017

Present: P. Garone (chair), A. Dorsey (chair-elect), K. Baker, K. Brodie, M. Cover, K. Kidd, U. Ghuman, C. Martin, K. McKenzie, S. Wood, S. Young *
(*Quorum – 8 voting members*)

Ex-Officio: D. Evans, K. Greer, P. Hauselt, D. Lindsay, R. Rodriguez, S. Sims

Guests: L. Bernardo, E. Junn A. Reeves, S. Schraeder (recording), H. Stanislaw, D. Tavernier

Excused: J. Bell, R. Bhaduri, O. Myhre, S. Neufeld, T. Perrello
**No ASI graduate student representative assigned as of February 2017*

- I. **Call to Order.** P. Garone called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.
- II. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda of March 16, 2017 was approved as distributed. Agenda item “Graduate Management Admission Council: Recent Changes to U.S. Visa Policy” was moved to “V. Old Business” Item D from “VI. New Business” Item A.
- III. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of February 16, 2017 review was deferred.
- IV. **Information, Announcements, Reports.** M. Cover announced the successful reservation of several tables for the UC Merced Diversity in Graduate Education event on Saturday, April 8, 2017. Cover shared that the Criminal Justice, History, English, and Psychology graduate programs will be represented at the forum. Additionally, Cover, representing graduate programs at Stanislaus State, offered to take one-sheets for any graduate programs not attending.

R. Rodriguez reminded members to submit information regarding publications for the inaugural Stanislaus State Biennial Author Recognition. Submissions are due March 29, 2017 using the [electronic form](#). These scholarly and creative awards are eligible for works published in the time period of January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2017. P. Garone noted that it has been a pleasure working on this event with Rodriguez and L. French. He reminded members that this is not a time to be humble if faculty, emeriti, administrators, or staff members have publications, and that this event will send a message to the community that Stanislaus State actively participates in research.

K. Kidd announced that the Executive MBA program will begin submitting student culminating experience projects to the University Library.

D. Evans and P. Garone shared the draft catalog language regarding graduate academic and administrative-academic probation and discontinuation. Members are asked to review the document posted on the Graduate Council Blackboard forum by the next scheduled meeting.

In the Academic Senate meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, a member presented a proposal to review the Graduate Council membership. The proposal suggested that individual graduate programs can select their representatives rather than automatically delegating the Graduate Council representation to the graduate program director. The current language of the [Constitution of the General Faculty](#) indicates:

“Section 6.1 The Graduate Council shall be composed of a Chair and Chair-elect, and the graduate program coordinator from each department that offers a master's or doctoral degree. Should the sponsoring unit be a college rather than a department (e.g. the College of Business sponsors the MBA), the graduate program coordinator of the college shall serve on the Graduate Council. In departments where the master's degree has multiple specializations and a program coordinator for each specialization (e.g. the Department of Teacher Education), then one of the department's graduate coordinators shall be elected by the department to serve on the Graduate Council for a two-year term.”

The Graduate Council would need to recommend a request for revision to the language in the constitution to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) for consideration by the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC). P. Garone asked members to discuss a proposal to revise the composition of the Graduate Council at respective department meetings to determine the level of desirability for revision to the Constitution of the General Faculty. Garone reminded members that the Graduate Council chair and chair-elect positions are open for election conducted by the Committee on Committees. These positions do not require one to be a graduate program director. Discussion will continue at the next scheduled meeting.

V. **Old Business**

- A. **Graduate Fellowship Fund Distribution.** N. Gonzales shared the guidelines for the Graduate Equity Fellowship for Graduate Council review and feedback. The Financial Aid system can automate screening of students based on the criteria selected, including financial need. The use of the system screening tool would make the distribution of the fellowship consistent with other scholarships offered at Stanislaus State. The committee discussed the timing of the application period for the fellowship, for example, to account for recruitment. It was indicated that if more flexible deadlines are utilized, it would mean more manual input by the Financial Aid Staff. Additionally, a consistent and earlier timeline is important to account for a student's financial aid package. If a student earns the fellowship and already accepted their financial aid package, the student may need to return part of the original package or loan because maximum disbursement limits exist. Discussion will continue at the next scheduled meeting.
- B. **Graduate Student Disqualification and Probation.** Deferred.
- C. **Co-authorship of Theses, Projects, Dissertation.** Deferred.
- D. **Graduate Management Admission Council: Recent Changes to U.S. Visa Policy.** Deferred.

VI. **New Business**

- A. **Discussion of Reinstitution of a Graduate Dean.** The Graduate Council welcomed President Ellen Junn and introductions were shared. P. Garone noted that Junn was invited to attend to speak about the Graduate Council's request for the reinstitution of a Graduate Dean at Stanislaus State. Junn indicated that budgetary constraints currently limit the University's ability to fund a graduate dean, but acknowledged Stanislaus State's role in supporting graduate education in the region. Junn discussed the potential of developing a faculty director position to support graduate education. She would like to see further discussions in Graduate Council and the Academic Senate indicating support of graduate education at

Stanislaus State. The discussions should include the extent of potential growth of graduate programs at Stanislaus State including new master’s and doctoral programs. The president indicated that it is crucial to think about the strategic development of graduate programs. Members discussed the potential of getting support from donors that support graduate education. It was suggested that campus stakeholders speak to local legislators for increased baseline funding for Stanislaus State. Legislators need to hear about Stanislaus State and what it means to the community. Increased baseline funding might more easily allow for increased spending to support graduate education. A statement of support for graduate education from the campus that details the history of graduate education support at Stanislaus might be useful. Because this is a strategic decision, Academic Senate support is integral. Discussion will continue at the next scheduled meeting.

- B. New Program Proposal: M.S. in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration.** D. Tavernier was introduced by C. Martin and the committee welcomed the director of the School of Nursing. C. Martin introduced the proposal for a new Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration in the M.S. in Nursing. Martin shared that the School of Nursing was approached by a foundation requesting assistance to increase Family Nurse Practitioners in Turlock and the directly surrounding areas. The foundation indicated they would provide full financial support to the School of Nursing for such a program. One restriction specified that the program would need to be in place no later than January 2018. The funding is for 1.5 million dollars to support the program over a three-year period. Graduate Council members reviewed and discussed the proposal. D. Evans indicated commitment to continued institutional support for the program when funding from foundation expires after the three-year commitment. Tavernier indicated that Sonoma State University currently enrolls around 8 to 15 students from the Central Valley area who are completing some coursework in the Stanislaus State M.S. in Nursing program to complete Sonoma State’s Family Nurse Practitioner program. The new program would serve students in the Stanislaus State region and not require them to enroll in Sonoma State’s program. The committee discussed the availability of faculty to teach in the new program and continued support for existing undergraduate and graduate programs. Expected enrollment by the end of the third year is targeted at 30 students, but it was indicated that 15 students could sustain the offering of the program. The committee discussed the urgent health care need in the Stanislaus State region. U. Ghuman motioned, A. Dorsey seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to move the proposal review of the new Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration to a second reading. U. Ghuman motioned, A Dorsey seconded, and the committee unanimously approved the Family Nurse Practitioner concentration in the M.S. in Nursing pending approval of the College of Science curriculum committee.

VII. Other. The next Graduate Council meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2017 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Lakeside Conference Room.

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

IX. Action Items

| Description: | Assigned To: | Completed: |
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| Co-Authored Culminating Experience Policy Ad Hoc Committee will prepare items for discussion at the Graduate Council on April 20, 2017. | K. Brodie, K. McKenzie, J. | |

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| | Vasquez, and H. Stanislaw | |
| M. Cover will coordinate the attendance of graduate programs to the California Forum for Diversity in Graduate Education early in the week of February 20, 2017. | M. Cover | Completed |
| Discuss proposal to revise the composition of the Graduate Council at respective department meetings to determine the level of desirability for revision to the Constitution of the General Faculty. | Graduate Program Directors | |

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Schraeder, Recording Secretary

PG:ss