

California State University, Stanislaus
Graduate Council
Meeting Minutes **February 18, 2021**
VIRTUAL via Zoom

PRESENT: A. Mayer (chair), K. Baker (chair-elect), D. Bukko, V. Cortez, A. Dorsey, B. Randol, B. Wolfe-Hunnicut, J. Garcia, U. Ghuman, M. Tiscareno, M. Cover, S. Whitehead, S. Wooley, S. Ayala, K. Nainby, R. Rodriguez, D. Evans, T. Gomez-Arias, J. Tuedio, J. Bell

GUESTS: L. Bernardo, V. Montero-Hernandez, G. Aulak (recording)

- I. Call to Order.** Mayer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda.** The agenda of February 18, 2021 was approved as distributed.
- III. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of January 28, 2021 were approved as distributed.

IV. Information, Announcements, Reports

- A.** Montero-Hernandez shared Center of Excellence in Graduate Education (CEGE) events flyer with program coordinators. The online graduate education week is March 22-26, 2021. The goal is to attract undergraduate students and inform graduate students. All sessions will be recorded and posted on CEGE website. Program coordinators are encouraged to share with their students.

- B.** Wooley shared the idea to redefine and expand the CEGE director position. Wooley offered to allocate some funds from AVPAA budget for this position. Montero-Hernandez has a report that identifies all reasons to expand and redefine the CEGE Director position. Currently, there is a waste of resources. Ghuman motioned and Dorsey seconded to make this a discussion item. Will redefining position come with added assigned time? How much are we adding on to the plate of faculty director and taking away from Graduate Dean? What would the roles and responsibilities be? President Junn is committed to hiring a Graduate Dean. However, members expressed concern about expanding role of CEGE Director. Currently, there isn't a graduate dean office in place. Having a graduate dean is an excellent investment in terms of increasing enrollment in graduate programs. University Extended Education (UEE) is doing an awesome job of recruiting graduate students. A graduate dean's office can equally accomplish this for stateside programs. CEGE should not be given this responsibility. It does not have the resources or authority necessary to accomplish increased enrollment in statewide programs. The CEGE Director could help in transition of bringing a Graduate Dean. Mayer suggested scheduling a special meeting for members that are interested in discussing the CEGE director position. This group will share discussion and feedback in the next meeting.

V. New Business

A. Workgroup Check-Ins. Deferred.

B. Program Updates and Plans for Fall.

- a) Program Updates:
 - i. Andrew Dorsey shared updates for Master of Arts in English. The concentrations will be elevated to stand-alone degrees effective Fall 2022. The enrollment numbers look great.
 - ii. Dean Tomas Gomez-Arias shared updates for Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs. Enrollment for Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) has been suspended. Enrollments have grown for both MBA and Online Master of Business Administration (OMBA). The concern is to maintain sustainability in these programs. The CRM program has been working well.
 - iii. Debra Bukko shared updates for Doctorate in Education leadership (Ed.D.). There is a waiting list for applicants. Summer 2021 will be virtual. For Fall 2021, there are sixteen students enrolled. Hoping to bring at least one class face to face in Fall. Dissertation season is starting soon.
 - iv. Suzanne Whitehead shared updates for Master of Arts in Education. There are three tracks: Counselor Education, Curriculum and Instruction, and School Administration. There is a shortage of faculty members. It is difficult to accommodate more students and increase the size of programs. Fall 2021 will be virtual. Students are required to sign a waiver every semester for COVID. Curriculum and Instruction programs needs to find new adjunct professors. There are only two full-time faculty and the traditional adjunct prefer not to teach online.
 - v. Victoria Cortez shared updates for Master of Arts in Child Development. Cohort one has ten students doing final touches to capstone. Cohort two has been launched with eight students. Hoping to be face to face for Fall 2021.
 - vi. Mia Tiscareno shared updates for Master of Science in Nursing. Faculty members have the option to be face to face, hybrid, or online. Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) is largest one concentration. Program is using online applications instead of paper applications.
 - vii. Brandon Wolfe-Hunnicuttt shared updates for the Master of Arts in History. Enrollment numbers are good. Program will be online for Fall 2021.
 - viii. Dean Ron Rodriguez shared updates for University Library. Renovations will possibly be complete by Summer 2021. The books will be back in the

- building in June 2021. Determining the plans and expectations for reopening.
- ix. John Garcia shared updates for Master of Social Work. Enrollments numbers have increased. Planning to be online for Fall 2021. The internship courses need to be face to face.
 - x. Blake Randol shared updates for Master of Arts in Criminal Justice. CECE has provided various resources. Stuart Wooley has been helpful at informing about recruitment opportunities and streamlining the application process. It is challenging when applications are incomplete. There is a need for Graduate Dean's Office to provide support for state-side services.
 - xi. Umar Ghuman shared updates for the Master of Public Administration (MPA). The program holds information sessions. Faculty has not decided for face to face or online for Fall 2021. Going back face to face might be difficult. Program is reevaluated for accreditation every year. The Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management is placed on hold. Strategic Planning, Enrollment Management, and Innovation (SPEMI) provided funds for outreach strategies. The MPA webpage has been revised. There are plans for a self-support online MPA.
 - xii. Kurt Baker shared updates for Master of Arts in Psychology and Master of Science in Psychology. Program will be online for Fall 2021.
 - xiii. Student representative Santos Ayala shared updates for Associate Students, Inc. ASI met with various departments. The disability resources center is accommodating a few students. Psychological counseling has after-hours available. There is a disconnect in student body in the online community environment. Students are having difficulty being more engaged or accessing services.
- b) What are some priorities for Fall 2021? Is it important for every course section to meet f2f once a month? How can we help each other? Should programs decide for themselves?
- i. Everyone is not ready to go back to campus. Staff in charge of sanitation are a concern. Some faculty members are not comfortable returning face to face until vaccine is universally available and required. Not all students feel safe or are able to return to face to face. There are benefits of individual programs planning. There is a need to prioritize undergraduate students and transfer students over graduate students.
 - ii. Practicum courses need to be face to face. Some graduate classes are small and can be held face to face. There is additional work involved in teaching some students online and some face to face.

- iii. Mayer will share priority list with Provost Greer and President Junn at the next Senate Executive Meeting (SEC) meeting:
 - a. Freshman
 - b. Sophomores
 - c. Transfer students
 - d. Visual, and performing art classes
 - e. Laboratory classes
 - f. Psychology, counseling, and other courses that involve simulation experiences.
 - g. Campus locations that can be reserved by faculty (who are teaching primarily on-line) but want to meet intermittently F2F with students in their courses.
 - h. Distribution location and services for faculty who are teaching on-line but want to get materials to students.

VI. Old Business

- A. **Graduate Learning Goals.** Deferred.

VII. Tabled Business

- A. **Fee Waiver Pilot Program for Teaching Associates.** Deferred.
- B. **Graduate Education Action Plan.** Deferred.
- C. **Course Time Module Scheduling Policy Review.** Deferred.

VIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

AM:ga