MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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Fresno, California 93740-8014

Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

April 5, 2016

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), J. Marshal, R. Raeisi, P. Trueblood, M. Lopez, D. Vera, T. Skeen, A. Nambiar, Kaitlyn Sims (student)

Members Absent: S. Tracz (Excused)

Guests: none

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 2:00 p.m. in TA #117.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the minutes of March 29, 2016

2. Agenda. MSC to approve the agenda as distributed.

3. Communications and Announcements.

J. Marshall:

1. Grad Coordinator reception tomorrow at 3 pm in Vintage Room; have 2 Grad Coordinator meetings per semester. This one is ‘happy hour’ with wine and cheese; Speaker is Janelle Gilbert from Kinesiology on Recruitment; UGC is always welcome in addition to Grad Coordinators.
2. Grad Research Symposium May 5th 1 pm to 8 pm; working out schedule; primarily poster sessions with some oral sessions from 1-4 pm; at 4 pm will shift to “3 min” presentations (select group of students); goal is to convey research to novel audience; 1 slide/student (4 to 5 pm); will have audience participation and 3 formal judges with feedback and awards will be presented; reception at 5 pm with Provost; 6-8 pm doctoral oral presentations in standard 15 min time slots; If interested in being judge please let Jim know, even if only short period of time. Want more judges this year; had 125 applications

c) August 19, 2016 is Grad Student Orientation 1-2:45 pm Satellite Student Union, immediately before New Student Convocation (i.e., walk over to SaveMart Center at 2:45); graduate students included in New Student Convocation

4. Recommendation for M.S. in Biology

Strengths:

1. Responsiveness – department has already implemented many of the Program Review recommendations
2. Have been working on improving graduation rate
3. Trying to improve Graduate Student Culture with mixer/social events
4. Working on training TA’s; now have a class
5. Program has a good size, i.e., 40-50 graduate students
6. Strong faculty and student research
7. Graduates going on to good employment or PhD programs
8. SOAP data available; good measures;
9. Strong university and community service from faculty; noted numerous committees at all levels
10. Have updated website
11. Advocated for Fee Waiver for TA’s
12. Overall strong program

Weaknesses:

1. Need revised recruitment plan
2. Still working on improving SOAP; needs better alignment with courses
3. Work load: Masters in Biotechnology program ‘takes’ faculty away from MS in Biology

Committee recommends the M.S. in Biology as a “Program of Quality and Promise”.

5. Discussion regarding program review for MS in Geology. Program and College representatives will meet with UGC next week.

1. MSC: to adjourn at 2:40 pm

The next scheduled meeting for the Graduate Committee is Tuesday, April 12, 2015 at 2 pm in TA 117.

Agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of 4/5/16.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

3. Communications and Announcements

Appointments to Graduate Curriculum Subcommittee

4. Program Review for M.S. in Geology