MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

November 27, 2018

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), J. Marshall (ex officio), K. Capehart, T. Lopez, P. Mahalik, D. Walker, S. Tracz, S. Church

Guests: Sarah Lam, Danny Wan, Cheryl Chan, Chris Lucey

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm by M. Wilson

1. Approval of Minutes from October 23, 2018, meeting

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Communications and Announcements:

* Dates for the Graduate Coordinator meetings for Spring, 2019 are Feb. 28 at 8 am and April 10 at 3 pm.
* Dean Marshall announced that accelerated master’s degree programs in agriculture, science and engineering would be proposed as part of a grant. Students in these programs would have to advance and graduate in the same semester, which typically is not done here. However, this is a campus practice so it doesn’t conflict with Title V regulations.

4. Discussion of the TOEFL and changing the IELTs score requirements for international students with Guests Sarah Lam, Danny Wan, and Cheryl Chan:

* Dr. Lam asked the committee to consider lowering the cutoff point for the IELTs for international students. She said that students choose Fresno State for its quality and accessibility.
* Only 1/3 of those who apply are admitted, and Dr. Lam posed the question: Who do we reject? She says that many people never heard of Fresno. They only know about LA and San Francisco. If international students are willing to apply here, and if we reject them on basis of preparedness, we risk losing a potentially good student.
* One of the things that will affect their admissibility is a low IELTs score as scores < 6.5 are now an automatic rejection.
* For many countries, conditional admissions are not acceptable for granting visas.
* Some CSU campuses accept 6.0 on the IELT; each campus decides its own cutoff score so we might want to consider using 6.0.
* When asked to compare the IELT and the TOEFL, Cheryl said both tests measure the same things: Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening. She described the tests and said they were difficult to compare. The TOEFL can decide things by subscales, but with the IELT, it is harder to do this and scores on subscales can vary widely.
* Dr. Lopez asked for a comparison of the likelihood of success of a 6.0 vs a 6.5 in terms of predictive use. There is no data on this at this time.
* Dr. Lam said that some student go through AEI to meet conditions and be admitted.
* Many students who come here are studying STEM areas, but these disciplines also require Quantitative GRE scores.
* Dr. Wilson suggested that we survey STEM and other coordinators to see which areas of these tests would be most important for students to be successful.

5. Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling Elevation with Guest Christopher Lucey:

* Dr. Lucey said it usually takes 5 semesters to complete a LPCC or MFCC. If students take longer it is because they are not getting clinical hours fast enough.
* Rehabilitation has always been in the CER Department. The rehabilitation program and the counseling programs were aligned and their accreditations were merged. This means that these programs now all have the same core coursework. This saves the KSOEHD some money because the accreditation cycles are coordinated. They worked with Melissa Jordine to make the SOAP the same for both programs.
* Because the counseling programs are aligned, students take the same core courses together. All faculty are qualified to teach the core, and the core is taught by everyone. Then they specialize out the other courses, some for rehabilitation and others for the MFCC. They do have some issues because accreditation requires a ratio of no more than 10 to 1, and it is difficult to separate enrollments in core courses out by the type of counseling programs. They try to limit the number of students enrolling to 25. The MFCC program is popular because 100% of their students get jobs, and they have strong admission to enrollment numbers. Students will take longer to complete their degrees here than if they went to National or Phoenix, but come here anyway. Unlicensed MFT’s start at $70,000 and $90,000 if licensed
* Dr. Lucey was asked why the Alumni Survey only measured goal 3? Dr. Lucey said there were so many things to report on, KCREP requirements, individual assessments on all students vs overall function of students. He said some things are pulled out for the SOAP, and other things are in the accreditation materials,
* Legally, they are required to act as gatekeepers, and the state will back them up when they try to counsel student out or send them to counseling. Students must pass writing requirement and clinical review. This must be done before working in the community.
* Dean Marshall reminded Dr. Lucey the process requires a WASC screening form. He will work with them on this form.

6. A motion of approval for the elevation of MFCC moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Meeting Adjourned.

The next scheduled meeting of the University Graduate Committee is Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in TA 117.

Agenda for next meeting:

1.         Approval of Minutes from November 27, 2018, meeting  
2.         Approval of Agenda

3.         Communications and Announcements

4.         Meet with team from Criminology to discuss their Program Review