

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5200 N. Barton Ave. M/S ML 34
Fresno, California 93740-8014
Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

October 20, 2020

Members Present: M. López (Chair), J. Marshall, A. Hoskins, D. Lent, B. Sethuramasamyraja,
D. Walker, R. Sias

Members Excused: K. Capehart

Chair López called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. via Zoom.

- I. Minutes: MSC to approve the minutes from 10/06/2020
- II. Agenda: MSC to approve the agenda
- III. Updates/Announcements:
 - Dean Marshall shared that the university has submitted list of face-to-face (f2f) classes for Spring 2021 to the Chancellor's office. The number reflects a 30% increase from f2f classes currently being offered, but the number remains below the daily on-campus person cap currently in place. The list is likely to be approved by the Chancellor's office.
 - Dr. Lent requested information on lab access to students (Graduate Students) involved in Research and Creative activities on campus. Students do not have access to laboratories and offices after hours without contacting the Campus Police. Dr. Lent mentioned that some students are not comfortable interacting with Police personnel. Dr. Marshall noted that unsupervised access to laboratories is challenging in the current environment, as all facilities require cleaning/sanitizing following current campus-wide COVID-19 policies and schedule. Campus Police and Facilities are handling the situation to provide safe access to everyone given current limitations.
- IV. Continued Preliminary Discussion: Counseling MS Program Review
 - Additional information was requested by UGC and provided by Counselling program.
 - Graduate Coordinators for both options do get release time (3 or 4 units per AY) for their role in the program.
 - Planned faculty searches are underway.
 - The assessment data available shows 100% of students pass the culminating exam. There is the question of whether the passing rate accurately reflects mastery of required material and skills, or reflects instead a too-easy exam. However, Chair Lopez and Dr. Walker noted that the reported rate is after

remediation and re-taking of the exam by those students who fail any of its parts on their first attempt.

- There is a concern that students were not able to articulate counselling theories, as per the assessment reports for 2015 and 2016. The committee would like clarification regarding how and when reassessment of student improvement was documented.
- Student enrollment is down from two years ago. This is part of the program's planned enrollment management. The committee observed that the number of graduating students and general enrollment management was sustainable.
- There was a concern on 'reflective essay' incorporated from national standards or accrediting body not implemented in the Counselling curriculum. Otherwise, the Counselling curriculum was well improved and solid as documented.

V. Preliminary Discussion: Spanish Graduate Master's program – Graduate Writing Requirement

- Advancement to Candidacy may require a qualifying exam in some master's program per Dr. Marshall. The committee had a query if this writing requirement was tied to the qualifying exam or just an additional requirement to advance to candidacy.
- There was a concern on assessment of the writing requirement, including specific rubrics and parameters. The availability of rubrics may help with committee review.
- MSC to contact Spanish program coordinator via email requesting information regarding 1. Writing requirement rubrics and 2. Availability of courses that will allow for timely assessment of the writing requirement before advancement of candidacy. The motion carried unanimously.

MSC to adjourn at 2:55 p.m.

The next meeting of the University Graduate Committee is scheduled for November 3, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Agenda:

- I. Approval of minutes from 10/20/2020
- II. Approval of agenda
- III. Updates/Announcements
- IV. Program Review Visit: Counseling M.S. (2:10 time certain)