

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

August 24, 2021

Members Present: M. López (Chair), G. Sharma, R. Sias, D. Lent, K. Capehart, A. Hoskins, D. Walker, and J. Marshall (ex officio)

Members Absent: B. Sethuramasamyraja

Meeting called to order via Zoom by Chair López at 2PM.

- I. Minutes: MSC via email to approve the minutes from 11/10/2020
- II. Agenda: MSC to approve the agenda
- III. Updates/Announcements:
 - Dean Marshall announced he is retiring. After this semester, he will be stepping down from his administrative post, taking a sabbatical to prepare for reentering the classroom, and beginning the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP). A university-wide announcement of that will be forthcoming from the University Communications. The committee expressed congratulations for Dean Marshall. Chair Lopez especially thanked Dean Marshall for his supportiveness and inclusiveness of her and others.
 - Relatedly, Dean Marshall also announced there will be a forthcoming call for service for an Interim Dean of Research and Graduate Studies. The call will be for tenured full faculty members. Preferred requirements will include experience as a department chair or higher, experience with graduate education or students, and experience with grant writing. Dean Marshall encouraged all qualified candidates to apply.
- IV. Modality for Future Meetings:
 - Chair Lopez asked the committee to discuss our preferred modality for meeting, given that the campus is being partially repopulated, but also given that the Covid-19 pandemic is ongoing. After discussion, the committee voted to continue meeting virtually for this semester.
- V. Minute-Taking:
 - Chair Lopez shared a Google Sheet (“UGC 2021-2022 Meeting Schedule”) in our committee’s shared Google Drive that provides “one stop shopping” (as Dr. Walker put it) for information about: our upcoming meetings; action items for those meetings;

materials relevant to those meetings; a sign-up sheet for taking meeting minutes; and a place to record any absences by committee members. Chair Lopez was commended by committee members for providing this useful organization of information.

- Committee members were asked to use the relevant part of that Google Sheet to sign up for two meetings this semester at which to take minutes.
- In response to a question, it was also decided that committee members should use the relevant part of that Google Sheet to record their expected absences. A separate email to the Chair about expected absences is not necessary.

VI. GRE-GMAT individual waiver extensions

- Dean Marshall explained to the committee that the Provost decided that graduate programs that required the GRE, GMAT, or similar standardized tests before the pandemic will be allowed, upon request, to continue to waive those requirements for Spring 2022 admissions. (Throughout last academic year, there was a university-wide waiver of those standardized tests for all graduate programs due to pandemic-related disruptions. And at the end of last academic year with the results of the vote announced on April 3, 2021, by the chair, this committee voted against continuing that waiver for Spring 2022 admissions.) Going forward, however, individual graduate programs would need to go through the more rigorous process of revising their stated admissions criteria if they no longer wish to require such tests. Those admission-related changes would fall under the purview of this committee and involve catalog-copy changes.

MSC to adjourn at 3PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the University Graduate Committee is Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Agenda for August 31, 2021

- I. Approval of minutes from 8/24/21
- II. Approval of Agenda for 8/31/21
- III. Updates and Announcements
- IV. Preliminary Discussion: Options Proposal - Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling