

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
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Fresno, California 93740-8027
Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

September 21, 2021

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

Member Excused: B. Sethuramasamyraja.

Guest: M. Varela (joined at 2:08 PM)

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM, by Chair López on Zoom.

- I. Minutes: MSC to approve the Minutes of September 14, 2021
- II. Agenda: MSC to approve the Agenda for September 21, 2021

III. Updates, Announcements, and Communications

- A. J. Marshall – 10 applicants for Interim Dean for GRS. President Jimenez-Sandoval is convening a committee to review applications this week.
- B. Graduate Admissions is adding a new mechanism to the CAL APPLY website, Quadrant Four, to allow applicants to submit any supplemental program application material. The new mechanism will be demonstrated at the upcoming Coordinators' meeting.
- C. Graduate coordinators will be given information at the upcoming Coordinators' meeting on resources to support student health and well-being.
- D. R. Sias asked a question about the Cal State Apply window for applications. J. Marshall - Undergraduate is a narrow window, but Graduate admission has a more flexible window, with a deadline of June 1 for the upcoming academic year.
- E. D. Lent asked a question about advancing to candidacy. The September deadline is to ensure students can graduate the following semester. This is because they must be evaluated. After that deadline, evaluation of Advancement to Candidacy applications is not guaranteed, but DRGS personnel will make their best effort to review applications in a timely fashion.

IV. Discussion Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Options Proposal

- A. Further discussed the 60 units and how to align this with the culminating experience options.
- B. MSC to amend the UGC's memo to reflect our recommendation that the program keep the three culminating experience options.
- C. Wordsmithed the language of the letter to reflect the discussion of the committee and the faculty from CRMHC options.

V. Discussion of APM 233.

- A. UGC is tasked with reviewing this policy and can choose to keep it in place as is or vote that it needs to be revised.
- B. M. López asked if this issue is related to substitution vs. repetition of undergraduate courses. M. Varela – discussed the documented history of the policy and noted that UGC was not involved in the prior discussions. It is already set that graduate students cannot use grade substitution, but the current policy states that graduate students cannot repeat undergraduate courses at all.
- C. M. López notes that the current policy is quite harsh, in that it would result in graduate students being removed from the program if they failed a single undergraduate course. This can be problematic, especially for degrees that require undergraduate courses.
- D. J. Marshall reiterated points about retakes vs. substitution brought up in the last discussion and added that a clause could be added to require Departmental permission for retakes of undergraduate courses.
- E. The committee concluded that the original intention of the policy was to allow graduate students to retake undergraduate courses but not for grade substitution, but the policy is poorly worded.
- F. M. Varela noted that having the Departmental option to deny retakes would be preferable.
- G. A. Hoskins asked what stops the graduate students from taking the undergraduate course at another University. It was noted that once a student has achieved full classified graduate standing at Fresno State, they cannot transfer courses from another University towards their degree.
- H. D. Lent suggested that an option would be to state that graduate students cannot grade substitute and may only retake courses with permission of the Department.
- I. D. Walker felt that there was still a grey area in the policy regarding admission process and conditional requirements and the specific degree requirements that may include undergraduate courses.
- J. J. Marshall indicated that the coordinators set the conditions for conditional admissions and get to remove students if they fail to meet the requirements. M. Varela noted that there are some degree programs that lay out these specifically, rather than being up to the discretion of the coordinator.
- K. MSC: Recommend APM 233 be amended to state that graduate students are allowed to repeat undergraduate courses with permission of the coordinator/Department but are not allowed to grade substitute for any reason. We will pass our suggestion on to the appropriate Academic Senate body for review and implementation of our suggestion.

VI. Discussion Athletic Training Program Change

- A. K. Capehart noted the key changes: remove GRE, remove language that they are accredited, and introduce an exam that helps students prepare for board qualifications.
- B. M. López – wanted to know the difference between board exam and credential exam. D. Walker noted that her impression is that they may be working with the State of CA for board accreditation.

- C. J. Marshall noted that the accreditation documents have been signed by the President in June, but the status is unknown.
- D. The committee was concerned about the language related to students that graduate from the program are not able to sit for the credential exam or be eligible for license in most states.
- E. Committee wants more information about the status of the credential process and the nature of the different types of exams (board, credential, qualifying, etc.) before we make a decision. M. López will reach out and bring details to next meeting

VII. MSC to adjourn at 3:01 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the University Graduate Committee is Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Agenda for September 28, 2021

- I. Approval of the Minutes from September 21
- II. Approval of the Agenda for September 28
- III. Updates and Announcements
- IV. Continued discussion: Athletic Training program change proposal
- V. Discussion: International Affairs request to add Duolingo permanently