

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

September 5, 2023

Members Present: M. López (Chair), L Diala, S. Hernandez, A. Hoskins, D. Lent, N. Mahalik, J. Goto (ex officio)

Members Excused: M. Crawford

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Chair López.

- I. Approval of minutes from August 29, 2023
 - A. Tabled until the next meeting.

- II. Approval of agenda for September 5, 2023

- III. Communications and Announcements
 - A. J. Goto shared the committee's comments of plus/minus grading with AP&P. Will share additional comments at the next AP&P meeting.
 - B. J. Goto shared that Chuck Radke, the Division of Research and Graduate Studies' Thesis Consultant, is retiring. His and several other positions need to be filled. She asks for consideration in regard to possible delays in responding to queries/requests made to DRGS.
 - C. Plagiarism cases have increased significantly in the past few years, even though the Graduate Success Center developed modules on plagiarism for grad students.
 1. This topic was previously brought up about 5 years ago.
 2. Current practice -- Program coordinators discuss plagiarism cases with graduate faculty when a student is being considered for disqualification. Students are eliminated from the program, but not from the university. Some thesis committees use TurnItIn, but others do not.
 3. Plagiarism Module will be shared with coordinators.
 4. D. Lent recommended thesis chairs open up 299 Canvas shell to allow students to submit to TurnItIn as many times as desired.
 - D. There are questions that come to DRGS about GRE scores. Admissions criteria are not consistent in the catalog. M. López shared that there used to be a template, but that it was considered too much work for coordinators to maintain. Future action item to discuss template for admissions requirements. L. Diala mentioned

that some programs which removed entrance examination requirement during the pandemic have had discussions about whether it should be reintroduced.

IV. Discussion of redlines of APM 311

- A. M. López discussed that additional redline was required because requirement of FAFSA appeared in more than one place in the document.
- B. Minor edits/changes, such as relabeling of options due to deleted text, need to be made.
- C. Discussion about whether policy should exclude TA waiver for students who are enrolled only part time (excluding enrollment in only 299). J. Goto will review to ensure that policy is in agreement with the Chancellor's Office.
- D. Table vote pending confirmation of Chancellor level policy.

V. KNES Program Review

- A. N. Mahalik asked about the number of programs. M. López shared that currently there are two programs, one of which has three options. The Athletic Training program is externally accredited, and therefore not part of this review. The elevation of the three Kinesiology options is underway. The paperwork has been approved by this committee, but is not yet official.
- B. M. López mentioned that faculty retention is not discussed in the report and that faculty are leaving at a concerning rate. D. Lent asked what are the reasons that faculty keep leaving. M. López proposed to ask program reps about any current effort/programs to retain faculty.
- C. M. López reported that the assessment report for 2018-2019 is missing even though it should not (since it was before the pandemic freeze on assessment and reviews).
- D. N. Mahalik commented that KNES 232 is no longer being taught because faculty teaching the course left. There is concern that having courses that are dependent on a single faculty is problematic. M. López shared that the course is likely an elective course, so if an elective is not available, it is not a concern.
- E. There are also questions about the curriculum in that the number of courses for the programs is inconsistent.
- F. D. Lent wants to understand the contributions of both full time and part time faculty towards all programs.
- G. N. Mahalik asks about faculty diversity and what plans are in place to recruit more diverse faculty.
- H. M. López needs to invite Dean to meeting.
- I. N. Mahalik commented that teaching effectiveness in study is only in terms of publications which does not seem to adequately cover the topic.

- J. Question of whether there are enough students to support all three programs independently. M. López suggested this must be the case, as the option elevations were approved.

MSC: Adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

The next meeting of the University Graduate Committee will be at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 12 in TA 117.

Agenda for Tuesday, September 12, 2023

- I. Approval of minutes from September 5, 2023
- II. Approval of agenda for September 12, 2023
- III. Communications and Announcements
- IV. APM 311: Policy on Teaching Associates (Tuition Waivers) -- re-edited
- V. KINES Program Review, cont.