

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5200 N. Barton Ave M/S UL34
Fresno, California 93740-8014
Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

April 9, 2024

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

Members Absent: J. Goto (ex officio)

Guests: N/A

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Chair López.

- I. MSC to approve the minutes from April 2, 2024
- II. MSC to approve the agenda for April 9, 2024
- III. Communications and Announcements
 - López: APM 226 - Chair of Personnel Committee requested further information. Will convene chairs of UGC and AP&P to discuss further.
 - López research: only 1 CSU has a more flexible definition for who can chair thesis, project, and/or exam committees. One campus allowed non-TT to chair a committee with approval from the Dean of Grad Studies and the Dept Chair.
- IV. DPT Program change
 - López: Sent our questions to Dean Goto. Awaiting response.
 - May vote via email once we hear from Joy if it confirms this information because the department chair has been asking if the approval is done.
 - López: No minimum required culminating experience units. No other specifications other than cannot be more than 8 units. No required course number.
 - Mahalik: Any push to have more doctoral programs in the university with new R2 status?
 - López: Limitation in the way that CSU and state government structured with UCs as “PhD granting”. Doctoral programs at CSUs usually developed in collaboration with a UC.
 - Lent: AB 656 changed rule -- doctoral programs at CSU no longer required to begin by being tied to a UC.
- V. Geology program review
 - Hernandez: request of UGC’s role in Program Review processes
 - López: Task of UGC is to review programs in their 5 year cycle as part of the university review process. We review the review documents from the department, the dean, and the review team. We may also raise additional questions and we may invite program representatives to a committee meeting to respond. Our task is to identify commendations and areas of concern, and then to make a recommendation regarding program quality.

- o López: 5 possible recommendations. 1) program of excellence, 2) solid program of promise, 3) conditional continuation, 4) suspension, and 5) termination.
- o Lent: Can only assign the last 2 if the previous one was conditional continuation.
- López: concern that the GEOL program has been graduating fewer than 5 graduates in the previous years, which is not enough to maintain the program while they seek to have a second graduate degree. Need to strengthen enrollment. Their average is only 4.1.
 - o Lent: Our recommendation should be for conditional continuation, based on not meeting Title V minimum graduation requirement.
 - o Lent: 3 year graduation rate is 25%. Admit 5 students a year but lose 1 every year also. (per tableau)
 - o Hoskins: High number of students leaving is a concern.
 - o Hoskins: They list 20-25 students in the program which doesn't align with the number of students who graduate. Even at 4 years, they should meet the 4.1.
 - o Lent: Program said Geology students need that degree with high demand but they don't have the numbers to support this statement.
- Hernandez: Lack of assessment in the program since 2015.
- López: previous cycle said they need advisory board and it still has not been implemented. No assessment is problematic. Don't use their SOAP and no quality control.
- Lent: What were recommendations from last review? This is not there and doesn't seem to be addressed.
- López: Invite program to the committee to discuss the concerns that we have. Open to chair and grad coordinator with dean, associate dean. 1 year retention (okay but overall numbers low, which is a problem) and 3 year completion rates (low). What leads to low rate and what plans are to address this? What recommendations were made in the previous self-study? What has been done already since the submission of the self-study since there are 6 months between the study and this time?
- Mahalik: Information focused on the grad program rather than combining the ug program in tables 1 (page 16) and 2. Some figures and other documents are combining programs.
- López: any assessment documents, even WSCUC assessment documents.
- López: Will contact the program to ask for the above requested documents and invite them to come to our committee to discuss the questions that we have.

MSC: Adjourn 3:06

The next meeting of the University Graduate Committee is scheduled for April 16, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in TA 117.

Agenda for April 16, 2024

- I. Approval of the minutes from April 9, 2024
- II. Approval of the agenda for April 16, 2024
- III. Communications and Announcements
- IV. Program Change – DPT

- V. Program Change - COUN
- VI. Program Change – ART
- VII. Program Change - CHEM