# 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 27, 2015

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), J. Marshall, P. Trueblood, A. Nambiar, D. Vera, S. Tracz, T. Skeen, M. Lopez

Members Absent: R. Raesi (excused)

Guests:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 2:02 p.m. in Thomas #117.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve with minor edits the minutes of October 13, 2015.
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the Agenda.
3. Communications and Announcements.
   1. Dean Marshall informed members that the Advanced Certificate program in Urban and Regional Planning has been approved by the Academic Senate and President Castro.
   2. Dean Marshall announced that the Division of Graduate Studies is planning a graduate studies appreciation week, GRAD Up, for February 16-20. The week’s activities will include a DGS Open House, a Graduate Resource/Programs Fair, a Faculty and Students mixer at the M St. art studios downtown (also to be a student art exhibit), a Latinas in Academia lecture (hosted by the Graduate Net Initiative), and a DGS-hosted section at the basketball game on 2/20. Dr. Tracz inquired about the possibility of advertising on radio and/or TV; Dean Marshall will investigate these options.
   3. Dr. Lopez informed members that the Graduate Statistics Studio is now open and available to masters and doctoral students. The Studio is located in the Graduate Study Center, which is on the second floor of the Henry Madden Library.
4. Preliminary Discussion: Program Review – Kinesiology
   1. Committee members discussed what issues and/or questions to bring up at the committee’s next meeting, when members of the Kinesiology program will be in attendance. Members noted that the department’s self-study seemed to focus mostly on their undergraduate program. Still, four areas of concern/interest were identified: culminating experiences, SOAP, student representation, and space sharing.
5. Continued discussion: 299C
   1. At the behest of Dr. Brad Jones of the History Department, committee members discussed once again the current policy of requiring students to pay half-time tuition to take 299C as a zero unit course to complete the culminating experience. Some faculty members are concerned that the cost is prohibitive and leads to students finishing in a hurry, to the detriment of the quality of the thesis/project. Committee members pointed out that, previous to the new policy, student completion rates were much lower and faculty load limits were being surpassed. Members also pointed out that students may take one semester off without paying fees, during which time they could continue working on their culminating experience. Finally, members wondered whether programs may need to rethink their completion timeline. Members unanimously voted to recommend no change to the current policy.
6. Discussion of need to schedule a follow-up discussion regarding the Graduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium.
   1. In view of possible changes to this year’s symposium, committee members requested that a further discussion of the symposium’s date and possible changes to its format. Chair Wilson will schedule and advise of the date.
7. MSC: to adjourn at 2:55 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Graduate Committee is Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in Thomas 117.

Agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes of 10/27/2015.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

3. Communications and Announcements.

4. Program Review of Kinesiology: time Certain 2:15

5. Continued discussion of Graduate Research Symposium: 3 minute presentations