Graduate Studies Committee
Minutes of March 8, 2016

Members present: Sloane Burke, Tom Cai, Ranita Chatterjee, Gina Giotta, Keiko Hirata, Sami Maalouf, Richard Moore, Mary-Pat Stein, Casey terHorst, Chelsea Turner, Andrew Weiss

Excused: Abraham Rutlich, Merril Simon

Executive Secretary: Crist Khachikian

Guests: Larry Becker, John Binkley, Soheil Boroushaki, Matthew Cahn, Lauren Carris, Hira Cho, Cathy Costin, Robert Espinoza, Christine Hayashi, Christopher Jones, Tim Karels, Rob Kent, Kim Kirner, Uma Krishnan, Garry Lennon, Regan Maas, Yoko Mimura, Henrik Minassian, Helene Rougier, Robert Ryan, Mary Jo Sariscsany, Patricia Seymour, Jack Solomon, Jackie Stallcup, Elizabeth Sussman, Greg Truex

Staff: Hedy Carpenter, Lani Kiapos, Gloria Rocklin, Maggie Shiffrr

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February 9th meeting were approved.

III. Announcements

Hedy Carpenter reported that 8 Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program applications and 36 California Pre-Doctoral Program applications were submitted to the Chancellor’s Office. She announced that 5 undergraduate students and 5 graduate students were selected to participate in the CSU Statewide Student Research Competition from April 29-30, 2016 at CSU, Bakersfield.

IV. Experimental Topics Courses

GSC approved the following new experimental topics course proposals for Fall 2016:

College of Humanities

Chicana/o Studies
1. CHS 496EJ-Environmental Justice and Chicana/o Communities (1st offering)

Modern & Classical Languages & Literatures
1. SPAN 496MS-Spanish for the Health Professions I (1st offering)
V. Curriculum Review

A. College of Health and Human Development

Communication Disorders and Sciences
1. New course proposal for CD 565-Clinical Practicum in Speech Pathology I-GR was approved.

2. Course modification proposal for CD 500-Background Leveling in Communication Disorders and Sciences to change course description was approved.

3. Course modification proposal for CD 566 – Clinical Practicum in Speech Pathology II to change requisites was approved.

4. Program modification proposal for the M.S. in Communicative Disorders to change total units to degree from 39 to 52 units was approved with revisions.

Family and Consumer Sciences
1. New course proposals for FCS 623-Family Financial Issues, FCS 685-Decision Making in Family and Consumer Sciences, and FCS 686-Current Issues in Family and Consumer Sciences were approved.

2. Course modification proposal for FCS 535-Fashion Theory to change course title, course abbreviation, and requisites was approved.

3. Course modification proposal for FCS 563-Textile Technology II to change course title, course abbreviation, course description, subject abbreviation number, and requisites was approved.

4. Course modification proposal for FCS 690J-Family Relations to change course abbreviation, course description, and number of times course may be taken was approved.

5. New program proposal for the M.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences: Option in Apparel Design and Merchandising and Option in Family and Consumer Studies was approved with a minor revision.

B. College of Science and Mathematics

Biology
1. Course modification proposals for BIOL 492R-Tropical Botany Field Studies, BIOL 492S-Tropical Ecology and Conservation Field Studies, and BIOL 492T-Tropical Vertebrates to change course description and requisites were approved.

2. Course modification proposals for BIOL 504/L-Phycology and Lab, BIOL 506/L-Tropical Botany and Lab, BIOL 507/L-Tropical Ecology and Conservation and Lab, BIOL 508/L-Biology of Tropical Vertebrates and Lab, BIOL 511/L-Molecular Markers in Evolutionary Studies and Lab, BIOL 512/L-Herpetology and Lab, BIOL

4. Course modification proposal for BIOL 510-Seminar on Topics in Tropical Biology to change course description, subject abbreviation number, and will only be offered for undergraduate credit was approved.

5. Course modification proposals for BIOL 568-Clinical Cytogenetics and Cancer Genetics and BIOL 589-Cellular Immunology to change course description and subject abbreviation number were approved.

6. Program modification proposal for the M.S. in Biology to change several 500-level courses to 400-level courses and change total units to degree from 30 to 31 units was approved with revisions.

C. **College of Social and Behavioral Sciences**

**Anthropology**

2. Program modification proposal for the M.A. in Anthropology was tabled.

Geography
1. New course proposal for GEOG 690J-Foundations in Geographic Information Science was approved.

2. New course proposal for GEOG 483-Transportation Planning was withdrawn.

3. New program proposal and CSU elevating option to full degree program proposal for the M.S. in Geographic Information Science were approved with revisions.

4. Program modification proposal to change program requirements and remove Standard Program option from the M.A. in Geography was approved.

5. Program modification proposal to delete the Geographic Information Science option for the M.A. in Geography once the M.S. in Geographic Information Science is approved by the Chancellor’s Office was approved.

Public Administration
1. Course modification proposal for MPA 698S-Graduate Project was tabled until the April meeting.

2. Program modification proposal for the Master of Public Administration was tabled until the April meeting.

Political Science
1. New course proposal for POLS 698D-Graduate Culminating Project was tabled until the April meeting.

2. New program proposal for the M.A. in Political Science was tabled until the April meeting.

Sociology
1. Course modification proposals for SOC 415-Gender and Criminal Justice, SOC 418-Gender and Crime, and SOC 428-Domestic Violence were tabled until the April meeting.

Urban Studies and Planning
1. Course modification proposal for URBS 480-Transportation Planning was withdrawn.

VI. Program Review Assignments

Psychology – Sami Maalouf
Sociology – Richard Moore
VII. Program Review Report

Maggie Shiffrar attended the Communication Studies program review meeting. She reported that the external reviewers comments were very positive.

VIII. Discussion Items

Mary-Pat Stein distributed and reviewed the Graduate Institutional Learning Outcomes proposal in which the GSC working group developed. She asked the committee to send her comments or changes. Stein reported that the proposal will have to be sent to the Senate Executive Committee once the GSC approves the proposal.

Stein discussed the issues with certificate programs that have not been offered for several years or have never been implemented. Shiffrar explained that the Office of Financial Aid has to keep track and submit a federal report on every certificate program that is financial aid eligible. Stein suggested that the committee determine a reasonable time limit to inactivate certificate programs. The GSC agreed to continue the discussion at another meeting.

Shiffrar reported that the Chancellor’s Office formed a task force to look at graduate education data. She distributed and reviewed the data from Institutional Research, which listed the master’s program graduation rates (for 2 and 4 years) and listed the average number of years needed to complete a graduate degree. The data indicates that 70% of CSUN’s master’s students graduate in four years. She noted that a good measure of graduate program success would be graduating students in a timely manner.

Jack Solomon, Director of Academic Assessment and Program Review reviewed the changes to the Program Review Policy and Procedures and Self-Study Guidelines. Shiffrar suggested a minor revision for the Participation of EPC and GSC Representatives section of the policy. Solomon agreed with the suggested revision and will revise policy. Stein asked the committee to review the documents and bring any suggestions or concerns to the April meeting.

Shiffrar distributed the latest draft of the exit survey for graduate students. The committee suggested some revisions to the survey. Shiffrar will make the revisions and send the survey to Institutional Research. The exit survey will be sent to the 2016 spring and summer graduate degree recipients in March or April.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.