

Graduate Studies Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Status of Minutes: Approved 9/13/22

Attendees

Members Present: J. Aguayo, J. Gainsburg, M. Galvan, M. Gianni, D. Jarvis, A. Lipscomb, S. Maalouf, K. Mkrtychyan, K. Requena, D. Spratt, C. terHorst

Members Absent: G. Bhavsar, C. Greathouse

Staff: L. Kiapos, A. Levin, G. Rocklin

Guests: K. Baxter, D. Gray, J. Gandhi, C. Hayashi, X. Jia, P. Lazarony, D. Tamalis, S. Tyutina, B. Wu

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from April 12, 2022 were **MSP approved**.

III. Announcements

A. Levin announced the award recipients for the Distinguished Thesis/Graduate Project Competition, Association of Retired Faculty Memorial Award, Nathan O. Freedman Memorial Award and Robert H. Schiffman Memorial Award. She shared that the Graduate Studies Office hosted the Graduate Student Celebration on May 3. Levin also announced that ten CSUN undergraduate and graduate students presented their research at the 36th Annual CSU Student Research Competition, and two students won second place. In addition, Levin announced that two CSUN graduate students presented their research at the second annual CSU Grad Slam, and one of the students won first place for the entire competition. Lastly, Levin shared that the Chancellor's Office approved a 4+1 program, which blends an existing baccalaureate and master's degree program (offered in the same support mode) into a single pathway.

V. Information Items

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership updated their admission requirements to be effective Fall 2022.

The Graduate Certificate in Business Administration suspended admission to their program to be effective Fall 2022.

VI. Program Review Updates

D. Spratt and K. Requena attended the Assistive Technology Studies and Human Services external review exit meeting. Spratt reported that the review was very positive and encouraging. The external reviewer praised the program as being exceptionally cutting edge; being a leader in the field; and hosting the annual assistive technology conference. The reviewer also commended the program's professionalism and its robust link between the professional and scholarly sides of its work. The reviewer suggested that the program create a marketing push to publicize the program more broadly for a bigger audience and to consider developing a Ph.D. program given the needs of the industry.

A. Levin attended the Ed.D., Educational Leadership external review exit meeting. She reported that the doctoral program was commended for their Saturday seminars; adapting the curriculum on the fly based on student feedback; and expanding doctoral support to their students. The program was also commended for high levels of alumni encouragement, alumni engagement, and extensive faculty support. The reviewer recommended that the program continues to advance its staffing issues; offer quantitative support for faculty; create more common spaces for students to congregate; explore opportunities for the faculty and the program to increase self-promotion; and share alumni accomplishments.

M. Gianni attended the Chemistry and Biochemistry final MOU meeting. She reported that the external reviewer had some recommendations on the department's faculty and staff development, but most of the meeting was focused on the bachelor's program. The reviewer's only recommendation for the graduate programs was to improve the recruitment of master's students from traditionally underserved backgrounds.

C. terHorst attended the Physics and Astronomy final MOU meeting. He reported that the department was commended for providing numerous research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students during the semester and in the summer; faculty and students contributed a high number of publications; and acquiring a lot of external funding, which provided the relocation of the San Fernando Solar

Observatory. The reviewer recommended that the department develop a new experimental based course for graduate students; increase efforts to diversify their faculty and the graduate program; and increase staff support for the planetarium.

VII. Action Items

D. Spratt from the English Department was reelected as the GSC Chair for 2022-2023.

D. Spratt reminded the committee that the CSU is ending the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) for graduate degrees. As a result, the Upper Division Writing Proficiency Exam (UDWPE) will no longer be offered as a way of meeting the requirement and all graduate references to the UDWPE need to be removed from the University Catalog. The committee **approved** the GWAR Policy memo to remove all graduate references to the UDWPE from the University Catalog effective in Fall 2022.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.