

**2012-13 FACULTY SENATE
GRADUATES STUDIES POLICIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Approved: February 19, 2013

5 February 2013

Members Present: Barakatt. Blanton, Hamilton (Chair), Heather, Hembree, Kaplan, Miller, Reddick, Sprott, Wassmer

Members Absent: Cardenas, Cowan

Guests: Chevelle Newsome

1. Call to order: Called to order at approximately 8:30 a.m.

2. Minutes of November 20, 2012: were approved as distributed.

3. Information Items

a. Report from Chair: Chair Hamilton reported that the items passed by GSPC last semester will begin appearing on the Faculty Senate agendas (starting with the February 7th agenda).

Chair Hamilton welcomed Heather back from his sabbatical.

Miller resigned as vice chair of GSPC. The committee elected Heather as the replacement.

b. Report on Executive Committee actions: Chair Hamilton reported that the Executive Committee is planning to take up the issue involving the role of the chair of GSPC on the Executive Committee on February 5th. The committee discussed this issue and gave recommendations to Chair Hamilton on the issue.

Chair Hamilton reported that Geni Cowan had been appointed to the IPP taskforce.

c. Report on Senate actions: No actions were reported.

d. Report on CSU actions: Miller reported that a joint (ASCSU and Chancellor's Office) taskforce had been requested to look into financial aid issues (including SUGs).

Miller reported that a MOOC taskforce was being developed. The committee felt that this may be a topic for future discussion in GSPC.

Miller also reported that funding formulas for CSUs may not be based on FTE's in the future.

e. Report from Graduate Dean: Dean Newsome reported that the college Deans had been asked for their numbers for next year (in anticipation of graduate admissions). She further reported that Deans had been specifically requested to consult with department chairs and graduate coordinators when preparing these numbers.

f. Report on Graduate Advisory Council actions: Dean Newsome reported that the GAC had been discussing the need for an addition to the culminating exam policy. Their request will be coming to GSPC soon.

Dean Newsome reported that the GAC has been working on the request to graduate coordinators for Graduate Learning Goals.

4. Old Business: Leave of Absence Policy

- The committee consulted the current leave of absence policy. It was decided that it was not necessary, at this time, to change the policy. The committee, however, did decide that it would like to see language added to the current catalog copy. This language (see below) was given to Dean Newsome for insertion in the policy regarding one-semester leaves of absence.

Graduate students are strongly encouraged to meet with their graduate coordinator before taking a one semester leave of absence to assure satisfactory progress towards their degree.

- The committee further discussed whether there is a need for a graduate advising policy. One question with regard to this was whether such a policy would be workable considering the number of faculty available to advise all undergraduate AND graduate students.

6. New Business: Credit Hour Definition for Graduate/Post-Baccalaureate classes

- The item is postponed until next meeting.

7. New Business: Graduation with Distinction

- While this item was labeled as new business, it has been an item for discussion in GSPC for over a year. Chair Hamilton brought forward a version of the item and reported that this version had been approved by the members of the Graduate Advisory Council as well as by the graduate coordinators of the campus (at more than one meeting). Chair Hamilton also informed the committee that it was the intention of those groups to bring this item from the floor of the Faculty Senate, if necessary. GSPC unanimously agreed to forward this motion to the Executive Committee and further instructed Chair Hamilton to inform the Executive Committee that this item

was being forwarded with the unanimous approval of GSPC, GAC and the Graduate Coordinators.

8. Other Business: There was a brief discussion regarding an item for future discussion: training of TA/GA/ISAs.

9. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Tracy Dawn Hamilton, Chair of GSPC