

**GRADUATE STUDIES POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2020**

Approved:

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was taken.

Voting Members: Anne Bradley (Library), Jai Joon Lee (absent), Albert Lozano (Graduate & Professional Studies in Education, COE), Jean Gonsier-Gerdin (Teaching Credentials, COE), Julian Heather (English, A&L), Kitty Kelly (Nursing, HHS), Anne Lindsay (History, A&L), Bryan Coleman-Salgado (Physical Therapy, HHS), Daniel Burghart (Economics, SSIS), Haiquan Chen (Computer Science, ECS)

Non-Voting/Ex-Officio Members: Alessandra McMorris (CCE), Chevelle Newsome, Adam Rechs (absent)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Approved

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 3, 2020: Approved

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

Open Forum:

1. Coleman-Salgado raised the issue of proposed legal waivers from the CSU related to clinicals and other on-site experiences during the summer session and beyond related to Covid-19. This issue could impact students making decisions for coming semesters, including new students accepting offers from graduate programs. Dean Newsome explained the proposed waiver system, that it would apply to internships and clinicals if adopted, and that campus counsel is reviewing. Dean Newsome further explained that CSU is allowing deferred admission for the first time on a program by program basis.

Reports:

1. From the Chair:
 - a. Discussion of the thesis reader policy survey and early issues. Lozano was concerned that there were no questions related to 599 supervision (continuous enrollment). Kelly and Gonsier-Gerdin also asked questions about the survey related to the mechanics of opening the survey and the issue of respondents being locked out.
2. From the Graduate Dean:
 - a. CR/NC discussions are continuing with the graduate coordinators. They are encouraged to think about future admissions cycles and how students with CR/NC will be evaluated for graduate programs.



SACRAMENTO STATE

Faculty Senate

- b. Virtual workshops and events are planned for summer to replace Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week.
- c. Members thanked Dean Newsome for her work during the pandemic and all the support that OGS has given to graduate students and graduate faculty across the campus.

Discussion Items:

1. Thesis Supervision Policy: GSPC continued their discussion of the Thesis Supervision Policy in preparation for writing the policy.
 - a. Dean Newsome answered the issues raised by Lozano in open forum about 599, including why students take 599 and how supervision varies across programs. Kelly suggested that 599 supervision should appear in policy.
 - b. Lindsay questioned whether resource allocation is permitted within a policy. Heather gave examples of incidences where resource allocation was included in previous policy. Burghart pointed out that even within the notes we have from the Senate action, resource allocation formulas are uneven in the coordinators section. The coming policy should likely have everyone on the same formula or give minimum criteria.
 - c. Members discussed the issues of confining the policy to a thesis reader policy, when that does not cover all types of experiences, including exams and unbound theses. A change of name and breadth of the policy was proposed. Dean Newsome confirmed that under Title V, all culminating experiences are equivalent. Members questioned the equivalency of some exams as some comps are standardized.
 - d. Members decided to hold further conversation on this policy to the next meeting to consider early survey results and feedback.
2. Thesis Co-Authors Policy: GSPC reviewed materials from prior Senate actions and data gathered by members related to thesis co-authors in preparation for writing the policy.
 - a. Lozano reported that three programs in the College of Ed have a co-author policy, but that policies related to the co-authoring were not always easily obtained or clearly articulated at the time of the research. He proposed further investigation to understand the policy in the college fully.
 - b. Discussion of unbound thesis projects and their co-authoring materials. Dean Newsome gave examples of unbound projects. Members felt that a clear definition of unbound thesis projects should be included in the policy.
 - c. Members requested more information on current co-authoring practices.
 - d. Lozano asked about CCE and other programs that have more than 2 co-authors on their culminating experiences. Are self-support programs following current policy/procedure related to number of co-authors? Dean Newsome explained that all policies apply to self-support programs.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at: 10:14 am.