

**2014-15 FACULTY SENATE
GRADUATES STUDIES POLICIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

October 21, 2014

Approved 11/4/14

Members Present: Adan, Heather, Kaplan, Miller, Reddick, Sprott, Thakur, Wassmer

Members Absent: Cowan, Hamilton, Hembree, May, Newsome

Guests: Jacob Abbott, Chia-Jung Chang

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

2. Minutes of 10-7-14: Approved.

3. Information Items

a. Report from Chair

Chair Heather reported on several items:

- the response from the GEAR Coordinator, Dan Melzer, to GSPC's decision against using English 109 as a replacement for English 220W;
- Heather will be meeting with the Senate Chair and/or Senate Analyst soon to review GSPC's charge and membership;
- the Senate appointed Geni Cowan to serve on GSPC until 2017;
- CPC will delay discussion of the paired course policy until GSPC is ready to work on it;
- no Senate business this year has been related to graduate education.

b. Report from Graduate Dean

Not present.

c. Report from Statewide Senate

Miller reported that the agenda for the Statewide Senate's plenary meeting had no graduate education-related business.

4. Discussion Items

a. New Business: Graduate Learning Outcomes

Heather and Reddick reported what they had learned from a WASC retreat they had attended the previous week:

- institutions can decide the best place for learning goals to be articulated—at the campus, college, or program level—provided there is a rationale for having them articulated at that level and

those goals are assessed through consideration of direct evidence;

- WASC is just beginning the process of examining graduate assessment;
- the core competencies identified by WASC are for the baccalaureate level and not the graduate level—graduate programs could examine different competencies.

GSPC discussed whether it wished to continue developing campus-wide graduate learning goals. The committee felt that it may be premature to do so. Instead, GSPC will create a road map regarding the policies and procedures needed to develop an adequate graduate culture on campus; Senate endorsement of this road map will help GSPC develop policies that have support across campus.

With regards to program assessment, members noted that some graduate programs already have a strong assessment culture and that a pilot plan for graduate-level assessment could include these programs, but should not be limited to them.

Members also identified a need to connect program-level review and assessment to university-level assessment; however, members questioned whether the campus currently has the infrastructure necessary to achieve this.

Members noted that the road map will need to include not just program-level procedures and policies but also a university-level, global action plan which could include policies on program review, GVAR, etc. In addition, feedback on the road map from graduate coordinators should to be solicited before it is presented to Executive Committee and the Senate.

b. Old Business: Graduate GVAR

The Committee deferred discussion.

c. Other Business

Wassmer raised a concern about RTP standards for faculty in doctoral programs who have lower teaching loads with the expectation of greater contributions to research.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15 a.m.

Julian Heather, Chair, GSPC