



SACRAMENTO STATE

Faculty Senate

GRADUATE STUDIES POLICIES COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 2, 2019

Approved: April 16, 2019

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was taken.

Voting Members: Data Barata (absent), Anne Bradley, Bryan Coleman-Salgado, Jean Gonsier-Gerdin, Julian Heather, Katherine Kelly, Jay Lee, Anne Lindsay, Albert Lozano, Rob Wassmer

Non-Voting/Ex-Officio Members: Chevelle Newsome, Antonia Peigahi (absent), Derek Garvin

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2019: Approved.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

Reports:

1. From the Chair:

- a. The Graduate GWAR is on the April 4, 2019 Senate agenda at first reading. During Senate Executive Committee discussion of this item, one issue that was raised was whether graduate programs who did not require a B in every graduate course would be held to the B requirement for GWI courses.
- b. The Senate elected Anne Lindsay to be GSPC Chair in AY 2019-20.
- c. Joel Schwartz and Jim Dragna will attend the April 16 meeting to continue the discussion regarding data needs that were held in the Fall.

2. From the Graduate Dean:

- a. Check the website for details of events for this week's Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week.
- b. The campus is working with the Chancellor's Office regarding issues with CalStateApply.
- c. The request for graduate learning goals reports will go out this week.

Action Items:

1. English Language Proficiency Requirements Policy

Members suggested several edits and voted to forward it to the Senate Executive Committee, provided that the Curriculum Policies Committee did not suggest substantial revisions during its review of the policy (see Appendix A).

Discussion Items:

1. Policy on Policies:

GSPC discussed the proposed revisions to the Policy on Policies and offered the following feedback:

- Members asked that a rationale for this policy be provided so that they could understand its possible benefits as well as the issues which the proposed revisions address.
- Members were unclear about how the consultation that occurs under the proposed policy would be used in finalizing policy recommendations.
- Members noted a mismatch between the Shared Governance Statement and the proposed Policy on Policies, both in tone and in content.
- Members found the process as outlined in the policy and accompanying flow chart to be confusing and overly bureaucratic.
- Members were concerned about the possibility of arbitrary decisions regarding policy creation/revision early in the process, with no apparent means of recourse.

2. Posthumous Degree Presidential Guidelines

Members offered the following feedback on the guidelines for posthumous award of graduate degrees:

- Because students may have suffered chronic illness, they may not have been enrolled during the previous 12 months.
- The GPA requirement should match campus language defining good standing i.e. a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Students may have been too sick to complete the necessary paperwork to advance to candidacy. Thus, it may be better to specify that they were eligible to advance to candidacy.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Appendix A

FS 18/19-XX/GSPC/ English Language Proficiency Requirement Policy, Establishment of

The Faculty Senate recommends adoption of English Language Proficiency Requirement policy, effective upon approval by the President.

English Language Proficiency Requirement Policy

This policy applies to all students who are applying to Sacramento State to take courses for academic credit that lead to a baccalaureate degree, a graduate degree, or a certificate.

I. Students Applying to Undergraduate Programs

All applicants to undergraduate programs whose native language is not English and have not attended schools at the secondary level or above for at least three years full-time where English is the principal language of instruction must demonstrate English language proficiency. Sacramento State interprets “where English was the principal language of instruction” to mean that a school is located in a country where English is the native language (the daily medium of communication of the majority of residents is English), and that the students receive academic instruction in all subjects (except foreign language courses) at all levels of education in English.

English language proficiency may be demonstrated by achieving any of the following:

- A score of 510 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
- A score of 64 on the internet-based TOEFL
- An overall band score of 6.0 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic test

II. Students Applying to Graduate Programs

Title 5 requires that applicants for graduate programs who have not completed a baccalaureate degree from a postsecondary educational institution where English is the principal language of instruction must achieve a minimum score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) prior to admission to CSUS, which may be satisfied in one of the following ways:

- 550 on the paper-based TOEFL
- 80 on the internet-based TOEFL (iBT)

Students may also demonstrate English language proficiency by possessing an overall band minimum score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

An individual graduate program may set higher English language proficiency admission requirements than those listed here; in such a case, the program should follow campus curricular review processes.



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III. Conditional Admission of International Students Through the English Language Institute

Conditional admission of international students is governed by the Policy Determining Academic Eligibility and Conditional Admission for International Undergraduate and Graduate Applicants Seeking to Matriculate at California State University, Sacramento through the English Language Institute.