

2015-16 FACULTY SENATE
ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES November 6, 2015
Approved: December 4, 2015
Approved/Amended: February 5, 2016

November 9, 2015

Members Present: Escobar, Blumberg, Schmidlein, Migliaccio, Li, Hunt, Geyer, Trigales,
 Gonsier-Gerdin, Gonzalez, Van Gaasbeck, Vogt, Hernandez

Members Absent: Bowie, Bradley, Fields, Murphy, Taylor, Watson-Derbigny

Guests Present: Malroutu, Slabinski

Call to Order: Called to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Open Forum:

* **S. Blumberg – Music Fest!!:** Announced the 3^{8th} Annual Music Festival that is coming to Sacramento State and handed out fliers advertising the annual event.

* **D. Hunt – Admissions Requirements for International Students:** The issue centers on whether a change in TOEFEL and ILS score (correcting the correlation) needs to be brought to APC and then move through the faculty governance process or if the director of the International Programs and Global Engagement Office, Dr. Frank Li, can simply make the change. D. Hunt informed the committee that he had been made aware of this issue in conversation with Dr. Li, who had said that Sacramento State was not following the correct correlation of these scores and that he had believed this was a correction, not necessitating going through the governance process. D. Hunt said that he would have Dr. Li contact Chair Escobar and then she can bring it to Exec to find out where this issue belongs and whether it is a simple practice or an actual policy.

* **S. Escobar – SRGS:** Chair Escobar shared that she had spoken with a member of the SRGS (Student Retention and Graduation Subcommittee) who had expressed concern that since the subcommittee had not been given anything to work on, she did not have anything to put into the RTP binder demonstrating what work that the member had specifically done. Chair Escobar had spoken with D. Sessoms, SRGS Chair following the Faculty Senate meeting on 11/5 and that an assignment was found for the member to work on. T. Migliaccio said that perhaps SRGS could work on GI (Graduation Initiative) related issues, since there's nothing in the SRGS charge that says that the subcommittee can only work on APC-requested tasks. Chair Escobar will follow up with D. Sessoms regarding this option. A. Gonzalez, who is APCs liaison to SRGS, shared that the subcommittee had been reviewing the Lascher Report on Impaction

2. Agenda Approved: Approved 2:30pm

3. **Minutes October 16th, 2015 Reviewed.** Minutes approved as amended, 2:35pm
4. **Repeat Policy.** A draft of the amended Repeat Policy was brought to Exec on 10/27. There was some confusion about the policy, to whom it applied and how the process would work for transfer students particularly, so Exec referred it back to APC for clarification. Chair Escobar shared that, in between that Exec meeting and the APC meeting, she met with K. Trigales and V. Llamas-Green for their input and ideas on making the policy clearer and easier to understand. The revision that Chair Escobar presented to the Committee was reviewed. This draft left Sacramento State's Repeat Policy alone, with the one addition of a link to EO 1037, which provides the mandates for the campus concerning course repeats. This draft also provided for an Addendum at the end of the policy language for Sac State students, and the addendum addresses the implications of course repeats concerning transfer credit. Committee members made some clarifications with respect to that language and the consensus was that it was ready to go forward to Exec.
5. **Duplicate Graduate Degrees Policy, Establishment of (FS 15/16-XX/GSPC/).** Graduate Studies Policy Committee (GSPC) consulted with APC for the committee's review of the draft policy and to provide comment/feedback. Committee members were provided a draft of the policy and transmittal document, as provided by GSPC, as well as links to two campus policies concerning Second Concentrations and Degree Programs. Committee members felt that GSPC should move forward with it, but in doing so, should provide much more context for why this policy is coming forward in the first place. This was unclear to the Committee. The Committee was also unclear about the scope or extent of the problem with students seeking duplicative degrees, though Chair Escobar shared that, according to Dean Newsome, it happens frequently. The Committee also wanted to know who were the students pursuing the duplicative degree: international students perhaps?? Lastly, they wanted to know how many students were actually doing this. Another point that was raised was that since individual departments or programs admit these students, the Committee wondered why a department was admitting these students into their programs, and then, who is finding out that a particular student is pursuing a duplicative degree and how does that identification process of these duplicative degree-seeking students actually happen. In a nutshell, the Committee did not understand the full scope of the problem in order to be able to provide specific feedback to GSPC. Another concern that was raised involves the Second Concentration policy. D. Hunt shared that he saw some issues with it from an enrollment management perspective (i.e., how are these students applying and then being enrolled once admitted to Sac State if it is only for a concentration). It sounded like he was going to look into this further. Chair Escobar indicated that she would be following up with the Chair of GSPC.
6. **Information & Discussion Items:**
 - a. **Declaring a Major: What does it mean?.** The Committee did not discuss this item because E. Mills was not at the meeting. We decided to put it on a future agenda.
 - b. **Priority Registration/Graduation Initiative Update.** K. Trigales provided an update. She is in the process of writing up a proposal to present to the Graduation Initiative group. For Priority Registration, the proposal is to move graduating seniors up to the first

day and some of the priority groups to the second day (not veterans, guardian scholars, or students with disabilities, which are considered protected status groups and register first ahead of everyone). Students would get 2 chances for this priority registration, in case a student fails a course, for instance. K. Trigales also shared that around 100 students have moved their graduation date 3 times, and this may be due to the fact that some students are really encouraged to apply for graduation once they hit 85 units (e.g., DEGREES Program). However, in many cases, due to the number of units a student may need to complete, it isn't realistic to apply to graduate once they hit 85 units because they will still have several semesters of coursework remaining. Trigales went on to say that she has spoken with the coordinators for the various priority registration groups on campus, and they are all fine with the proposed changes. These changes will not be effective in Spring 2016 because they need to be approved, vetted, etc. In total, approximately 1,100 students will be affected. Trigales said that she will keep the Committee apprised of these changes and the process as it moves forward.

c. Online Course Evaluation Program. The Committee indicated that they would like this issue brought to Exec to see if it either can be referred to FPC or who else can be brought in to address the following issues: low response rates of online evaluations compared with paper/pencil, or in-class administered evaluations; the actual content of the qualitative evaluations (narratives), which have trended lower (more negative) since the evaluation process has shifted from paper/pencil to online; and lastly, the determination of the release date of these evaluations and whether faculty can control that.

7. Meeting Schedule for Fall 2015

September 4	October 16	December 4
September 18	November 6	
October 2	November 20	
	(canceled)	

8. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Sue C. Escobar, Committee Chair