



Graduate Studies Advisory Committee (GSAC)

Minutes

Thursday, March 21, 2024

10:30am-12:00PM

10:30-10:31: Call Meeting to Order – Sarah Schrank

10:32-10:33: Review and Approve Agenda

10:34-10:35: Review and Approve February [Minutes](#)

- approved

10:36-10:37: Review and Approve November [Minutes](#)

- approved

10:38-10:48: *Graduate Student Pulse*: Alejandra Romo & Aishwarya Chauhan

- Graduate student concerns (Aishwarya)
 - Grad students seek more internship opportunities and awareness
 - Grad students are struggling with lack of funding, as they need to take out more loans and do not receive grants
 - They are recognizing the growth of doctoral programs at CSULB and are wondering why we are not getting more funding
 - Graduate Studies shared the Master Plan with the group
 - UCs are a doctoral granting institution
 - CSU serves workforce preparation for California. Mission is rooted in providing workforce
 - Doctoral programs had to be approved by the legislature 1 by 1
 - Some PhDs are in conjunctions with UCs.
 - CSU and CSULB is looking to expand more on the professional doctorates and they will include internships since they are professional. They will come with fees, higher than normal graduate programs. Proposed programs:
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Doctorate in Public Health
 - Doctor of Nursing Practice
 - Undergrad education is the focus so we cannot derive funding from these programs to Master's programs

10:49-11:15: *Discussion Topic 1: [Draft Graduate Advisor Duties](#)*, Dina Perrone

- Dina – heard and understood concerns about formatting
 - Formatting is clearer to capture variability across colleges and programs
 - Dina’s hope is that we can use this to support incoming Graduate Advisors – each college can edit as needed to tailor to specific responsibilities.
 - First attempt to have a foundation of responsibility Grad Advisers have
- Feedback
- Laura Portnoi
 - Grad advisor duties should be a bit broader to capture all the individuals who support graduate studies
 - “The graduate advisor and other staff involved in advising students”
 - Both staff and faculty that support – need to use a broader term because people all have different titles
 - Babette
 - Think about the purpose and who the audience is and WHY they are receiving these materials
 - We want it to be helpful to them, it is impossible to capture ALL responsibility
 - Concern about faculty confusion if there are listings of duties that are not faculty responsibilities; each dept has specific breakdowns
 - This list Dina has is the overarching list and not departmental specific
 - Ensure that the document is clear that this is not a formal guideline
- Changes were made 😊 people agreed

11:15-11:30: *Program-Specific Commencement/Hooding Ceremonies*, Dina Perrone

- Colleges can choose to hood graduating students at Angel Stadium
- GradCenter is able to support any on campus hooding ceremonies
- CNSM is not hooding – keeping separate
- Dina will share a document of how to coordinate and share cost with graduation

11:31-11:50: *Dr. Jody Cormack’s Retirement and Future of Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Position*

- Separating Vice Provost from Grad Dean
- Next week—will be putting a call for the interim Vice Provost position – Dina will be moving as an Interim Grad Dean role
 - Looking for a faculty director for the next AY with 6 unit re-assign time per semester
 - This faculty director will support Dina in duties
 - Faculty director would do event planning
 - Orientation
 - New grad advisor trainings
 - Professional development for Grad Advisors

- Other support for GradCenter
- Applications will be out on Monday March 25th deadline will be April 12th to make announcements in May
- Start date would be July/August
- CSULB has the largest grad school apps but not the largest graduate student body – SJSU has the largest number of Grad Students

11:51-11:58pm: *What's Happening at the Graduate Center*: Jackie Morales & Ammisha Opoku-Boamah, Grad Center Coordinators

- [Grad Slam](#): Submissions due March 21st. [Sign-up to be a Faculty Judge](#).
 - Grad Slam Viewing Party: Monday, April 15, 2024, 11:30am-12:30pm
- [CSU-Wide Grad Slam](#): Friday, May 3rd
- April 2, 2024: [Graduate Writing Retreat](#), 10am-7pm, LIB 2nd Floor
- Grad Student Mix & Mingle Event; Monday, April 8, 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Announcements

- [Monthly Grad Advisor Workshop: Clearing for Graduation and the ARS](#) Zoom/LIB 201, 1pm-2:30pm, Friday, April 12
 - Deadline changes? Why were they made (used to have 6 deadlines)
 - The reason it changed is because of all the processing that was needed
 - Challenges created on admissions and enrollment --- which made it difficult to track student enrollment
 - Kevin Sinchak: By having a March deadline, is it easier to recruit? Early enough to give them awards to bring them in and have them set by their June start program date
 - Jody – look at difference in results, if we see drops in enrollment in April then we can reassess about bringing back the March deadline again
 - **Agenda item for next time:** Having a 5th deadline and admissions being on board ? Dina can bring all the data about where programs were before and maybe think about how a 5th deadline can help.
 - CNSM would appreciate a 5th option that's between Jan and April
- Pei Fang: Masters degree policy will not make it to the Senate floor this AY
- Fall 2024 Admissions
 - Accept/Deny + \$150 Enrollment Deposit
 - International Apps due March 15

11:58-11:59: Good of the Order?

12:00: Adjournment

Next GSAC meeting: April 18, 2024

