

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
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Fresno, California 93740-8027  
Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

April 7, 2015

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), J. Marshall, P. Trueblood, A. Nambiar, D. Vera, S. Tracz, T. Skeen, M. Lopez

Members Absent: R. Raeisi

Guests: Interim Dean Sandra Witte, Dr. James Kennedy,  
Associate Dean Kathie Reid-Bevington

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 2:02 p.m. in Thomas #117.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve with minor edits the minutes of 3/3/2015.
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the Agenda as amended to show the addition of Item 5. Recruitment of Graduate Curriculum Sub-Committee members.
3. Communications and Announcements.
  - a. Dean Marshall announced the New Graduate Orientation for Fall 2015 will be held on Monday, August 24 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. The orientation is to be followed by a university-wide new student convocation. Further orientation details to follow.
  - b. Dean Marshall identified the need to schedule the Kinesiology program review for an upcoming meeting during Fall 2015.
  - c. Dean Marshall announced that a second graduate coordinator meeting for the semester will be held on Friday, April 24. The meeting will take place during the afternoon in response to coordinators' feedback, and will replace the second coordinators' breakfast.
4. Program Review: Viticulture and Enology.
  - a. Chair Wilson welcomed the guests and everyone was asked to introduce themselves.
  - b. Chair Wilson asked the invitees to provide any update or

information for the committee in addition to the program review reports that came to the University Graduate Committee.

- c. Dr. Kennedy highlighted that, with a new chair and several new faculty members, the Viticulture and Enology program is picking up momentum. The program's focus is now to increase the reputation of the program so as to increase in turn the amount of grant moneys achieved by faculty. This in turn will allow for further program growth, particularly in attracting and retaining of more graduate students.
- d. Dr. Kennedy moved on to discuss one area of concern identified by the outside reviewers, i.e. the limited amount of space currently available for research, particularly the need for a research winery. Dr. Witte interjected that a possible, partial solution is the assignment of space within the new Jordan Research building, which will be inaugurated January 2016.
- e. Dr. Wilson highlighted the program's small number of enrolled students (currently six enrolled, four of whom are graduating). The question arises: how will the program sustain its courses? Courses are currently offered once every two years. Dr. Kennedy explained that, within the discipline, growth is dependent on grant money and faculty numbers (currently only four graduate faculty teach within the program). A partial answer has been the hiring of post-doctoral researchers, who win grants and thus attract fully-funded students. Part of the issue here is that discipline standards require the full funding of students. The program is also considering the possibility of creating paid teaching assistantships. Dr. Vera inquired whether a pipeline could be developed to recruit undergraduate students from within the department. Dr. Kennedy explained that the undergraduate program is an applied program, and most graduates go on to paid jobs as vintners, etc., and are not usually interested in the research focus of the graduate program.
- f. Dr. Skeen enquired on the ideal number of faculty for such a program. The only comparable program in the nation, at UC Davis, currently has 15-16.
- g. Dr. Wilson pointed out the lack of a program SOAP, assessment data for the last review period, and any completed assessment work. Dr. Kennedy responded that this has been lacking, but the program now has an identified staff member developing SOAPS for

both the undergraduate and graduate programs within Viticulture and Enology.

- h. The invitees left at 2:46.
- 5. Partial discussion of the committee's recommendation followed. Due to time constraints, further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
- 6. MSC: to adjourn at 3:01 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Graduate Committee is Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in TA 117.

Agenda:

- 1. Approval of the Minutes of 3/03/15
- 2. Approval of the Agenda
- 3. Communications and Announcements
- 4. Recruitment for Graduate Curriculum Subcommittee Vacancies
- 5. Interdisciplinary Masters Program proposal: 2:15 pm
- 6. UGC: Review and Recommendations: M.S. in Viticulture and Enology