

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5241 N. Maple, M/S TA43
Fresno, California 93740-8027
Office of the Academic Senate Ext. 8-2743

October 31, 2017

Members Present: M. Wilson (Chair), J. Marshall, S. Tracz, S. Church, N. Mahalik, N. Wang

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in TA 117.

- I. Minutes: MSC to approve the Minutes of October 24, 2017 as corrected.
- II. Agenda: MSC to approve the agenda.
- III. Communications and Announcements
 - As per President Castro, non-resident tuition waivers have been increased from 10 to 25 for the academic year.
 - The next Graduate Coordinators meeting is scheduled for November 16 in the afternoon. The meeting's focus will be recommendations regarding implementation of the strategic plan for reimagining research and graduate education.

IV. Preliminary Discussion of M.P.A. Program Review

The committee identified questions and concerns to discuss with MPA program representatives at our next meeting. Questions include:

- The enrollment in the MPA peaked in 2009, but data show only 4 newly-admitted students for this academic year. Why is there such declining enrollment? What is their recruitment plan for the future?
- The program seems to have three areas of emphasis, with elective courses divided into the three. As currently organized, full time completion is approximately 2.5 years. Can this be changed to make program more competitive? Are all courses on campus? Off campus? Online? Also, is there an MPA 201 course in the program?
- Faculty is not diverse. Though they will not be hiring now due to low enrollments, what are future thoughts about getting a more diverse faculty?
- There are 5 universal competencies. Their SOAP seems OK. They are graduating people from their 36 unit program.

- As currently scheduled, the program's accreditation process is not aligned with the university's, which results in the committee basing their evaluation on data already out of date. Can the accreditation/review process be amended to better align?
- The program's self-study identifies an Advisory Board, but it does not seem to be currently active. Why is this? May this be improved?
- Can they provide more of an emphasis on public service?

V. MSC to adjourn at 2:45 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the University Graduate Committee is Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in TA 117.

Agenda

1. Approval of the October 31, 2017 Minutes
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Communications and Announcements
4. MPA program review