



ACADEMIC SENATE OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
Graduate Studies Advisory Committee

Annual Report AY 2021-22

Prepared by: Dina Perrone, Chair

Membership

Elected Members: Vesna Terzic (COE); Suzanne Wechsler/ (CLA); Virginia Gray (CHHS); Kevin Sinchak (CNSM); Ying Liu (COB); Jyotsna Pattnaik/Erin Biolchino (CED); Colleen Dunagan (COTA)

Student Representatives chosen by ASI: Shelbi Felter (ASI); Connie Ho (ASI)

Staff Members designated by Dean of Graduate Studies: Mary Anne Rose (CED) and Rhianna Williams (COB)

Academic Senate Designee: Pei-Fang Hung (AS Vice Chair)

Associate Deans or College Designees: Laura Portnoi (CED); Sarah Schrank (CLA); Tiffanye Vargas (CHHS); Babette Benken (CNSM); Rod Smith (COB); Feike Leij (COE); Johannes Stosch (COTA);

Academic Affairs Representatives: Bryan Rodriguez (Director GSRC); Jody Cormack (Vice Provost); Dina Perrone (Interim Director of Graduate Studies); Jacqueline Canales (Enrollment Services); Eugenia Kim (CIE); Mahmoud Albawaneh/Gary Coyne/Anthony Tchen (IR&A)

Officers: Dina Perrone, Chair

Introduction

The Graduate Studies Advisory Committee that met the third Thursday of every month starting on September 16, 2021 through April 21, 2022.

In AY 21-22, the GSAC committee:

1. Drafted the new Policy on Master's Degrees
2. Crafted Guidelines for Double-Numbered Courses
3. Requested colleges to elect alternates

Based on these actions, recommendations for the AY 22-23 GSAC to facilitate GSAC's processes, foster the success of graduate students, and improve the quality of graduate programs are provided.

The Policy on Master's Degrees

1. The committee sought to improve progress to degree, reduce requests for exceptions, enhance policy clarity, and advance quality of graduate programs by drafting an updated Policy on Master's Degrees.
2. The draft combines PS 14-01 Requirements for Master's Degrees, 18-03 Policy on Graduate Studies 700 (GS700), 12-12 Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) Policy.
3. GSAC primarily acted as a committee of the whole to combine, review, and edit the current policy on master's degrees into a new policy.
4. Subcommittees were only created to tidy the language in the new policy.
5. GSAC members sought feedback from programs in their colleges to ensure that other graduate programs supported the changes, deletions, and additions to the policy.
6. The final draft was recommended and shared with Dr. Jody Cormack to forward to CEPC on the committee's behalf.

Recommendations for the AY 2022-23 GSAC

On Process

1. The charge of this committee did not include a historian, yet one is needed.
2. At the *first meeting* of the semester,
 - a. Request a volunteer to act as historian, who may assist the chair, take minutes, and edit working drafts.
 - b. Create a GSAC Graduate Student Appeals Subcommittee to review appeal cases.
3. Ensure each college has elected an alternate
4. Draft an appeal protocol/procedures for use by the current and future GSAC Graduate Student Appeals Subcommittee

On Substance

1. Consider:
 - a. What is the meaning of a graduate degree?
 - b. What does it mean to have a graduate degree from CSULB?
2. Engage with graduate student data from IR&A and the graduate student entrance, exit, and alumni surveys to improve graduate programs and the graduate student experience.
3. Create a policy on doctoral degrees
4. Discuss the future of writing requirements at the graduate level
5. Debate requiring new admits to accept/deny offers of admissions
6. Discuss ways to best support graduate students
7. Brainstorm on recruitment and retention efforts