



Graduate Studies Advisory Committee (GSAC)
AGENDA

Thursday, March 19, 2026
10:30am-12:00PM

<https://csulb.zoom.us/j/88252984023>

Attendees (22): Jackie Morales, Ammisha Opoku-Boamah, Dina Perrone, Caitlin Murdock, Alysa Turkowitz, Alejandra Priede, Anthony Byrnes, Courtney Guerro, Alaine Ocampo, Daniela Martinez, Sarah Schrank, Neil Hultgren, Joon Lee, Kerop Janoyan, Lindsay Sterk, Marissa Hansen, Megan Junge, Rebecca Bustamante, Rod Smith, Tiffanie Graves, Yu Yang, Lisa Fascia

10:30-10:31: Call Meeting to Order – Caitlin Murdock (GS Faculty Director; GSAC Chair)

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

- Approved and moved

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

- Move to approve
- Neil: correction / emeritus needs to get deleted, if questions arise, will check in with Neil

10:36: Grad Student Pulse (No Grad Student Reps)

- No representative but will add something soon

10:37-10:46: [Updating College Flyers](#): Ammisha Opoku-Boamah (Graduate Center Coordinators)

- Due April 20th – due by this date since we have to meet budget deadlines
- Ammisha demo flyers across colleges, what is in the front and back to highlight for graduate promotion
- Updates need to be done from all colleges to ensure program info is updated
- Graduate Center has and we will be sent over to colleges
- Flyers are about 3 years old so updating them would be helpful
- Dina shared if colleges has their own marketing, please bring those flyers to Ammisha to highlight specific programs
- To use the flyers and mark them up – colleges will send over updates to Ammisha
- Keep the flyers brief

10:47-10:52: What's Happening at the Graduate Center: Jackie Morales and Ammisha Opoku-Boamah (Graduate Center Coordinators) <https://www.csulb.edu/graduate-center/workshops-events>

- **Highlight:** Writing Retreat: Wednesday, April 1, 10:00am – 7:00pm, Share the [Registration for the Graduate Writing Retreat](#).

10:53-11:02: Academic Senate Updates – Neil Hultgren (Chair, Academic Senate)

- Search for Dean of Grad studies is up and going
 - Will GSAC be included in search process?

- Neil will find out and will get back to the group, important to be involved since they understand grad studies
- Neil: what capacity will GSAC participate in? Interviews or affinity group capacity? Listening or forum?
- Marissa: If we ask questions, the questions need to get approved
- Neil says they do not need to get approved, it is just that all questions need to be asked to every candidate uniformly, hoping for something less formal
- Neil says committee asks the questions – can be via zoom or in person, it is up to the committee
- Rebecca suggested a lunch , Alaine will let Neil know what format they prefer
- Interviews will occur end of April
- **Alaine will be the point person to table this topic outside of GSAC**
- New M.A. coming up in Translating and Interpreting
- Legacy culture @ the Japanese Garden today at 2PM

11:03-11:40: Beach Edge Policy – Babette Benken (Chair, Subcommittee)

- Babette not able to join
- Sarah, Marisa, part of the committee
- Sarah suggested a certain part to be taken out in the first or second paragraph
- Neil suggested new program additions towards the end
- Caitlin added the note about 400 level classes
- F1 visas, be cautious about a policy that is general but also is mindful about the 500 level courses since everything is unstable
- Update curriculum of those programs that began Fall 2024 because CO policy says it can only be grad level
- Dina: will move this convo with CIE because students do need to get new visas since they are now grad level because of beach edge standing
- Addition of language—
 - International students must confer with guidelines for visa requirements and OPT
 - Or be more descriptive
 - *The program needs to be clear about guidelines for gaps between undergrad – grad studies*
 - *Making CIE the main point of contact since each case varies*
- Neil: general and less attached to a policy that is affected by the law
- Alejandra being clear on what responsibilities' fall on each office
 - OPT
 - CIE
 - GSAC
 - Student
- Adding in clear guidelines on who is the point of contact
- Dina: when an international student is admitted, there is a form that needs to be signed by undergrad and graduate advisor, it is then sent to CIE
- Language in the comment box done by Dina seems to be the way to go
- Dina: program development policies or other CSU policies?
- Neil: There will be conflict with certain policies , might be difficult to coordinate courses and syllabuses across multiple campuses
- Dina: language would suggest that students need to adhere to policies at their particular institution with blended programs MOU
- Double major consideration:

- Sarah S.: Potentially the rule could be that if you have a double major that one of the major has to be completed before moving into the Edge program and have their courses to double count for the graduate program
- Dina: Has language that the non-major courses should be completed before moving towards the Edge program.
- Caitlin: Would it be possible to say that you obtain the master's status when you have completed both bachelor's degree
 - Courtney: Sees it working this way, as currently that both majors are not awarded the degree until all requirements for both majors were completed. Meaning that they would not be moving to graduate status.
- Dina: What about a student finishing their master's degree curriculum prior to finishing their other major? (This question posed to the committee)
 - Sarah S.: Based on the current parameters for the double majors that may pose a challenge for students navigating the requirements that double majors may be difficult to complete Beach EDGE
 - Joon: Once they transition to graduate level for international students that they would need new I-20s and there cannot be two different I-20s.
 - Lindsay: An example Human resource management and then added Supply chain management that are under the College of Business, but it counts as a double major; and have a way to be able to do the Beach Edge.
 - Caitlin: Maybe to consider if there is a limit on how many they can reserve
 - Megan: Liberal studies degree have a more formal process to reserving the credit to the ITEP program. Trying to connect with the advising centers to be made aware.

11:41-11:46: [RSVP for Graduate Advisor Summit on Admissions](#), Fri April 24, 12:30-2:30 – Caitlin Murdock

- Topic: Admissions
 - A space to support graduate advisor to think about the changes that come to admissions on the various level from the local, national, and international
- Link in the minutes to register to attend; lunch will be provided
- Dina: How is your update on you FA27 going
- Questions you would like:
 - Rubrics, best practices, for admissions
 - Alysa: Presentation on the CRM to help with admissions; Donna to potentially to be shared. Update on the impact on implementing

11:47-11:53: Accommodations Subcommittee Update— Caitlin Murdock

- Purpose: To layout and understanding about how grad studies deals with accommodations that we can work with BMAC on some ways in which they've been issue accommodations
- The committee met once. Dina shared examples of statements from institutions and the group talked about the challenges that the program have seen that need addressing.
 - People invited to share any questions or comments to Dina or Caitlin

11:55-11:59: Time for Questions for Dina Perrone

- Dina: Senate Exec was asked to create a posthumous policy (full-on policy) and they are sending it to CEPC. Encouraged to speak a little about the experiences and conversation that was previously had about awarding these degrees.
- No questions posed.

12:00: Adjournment

- Moved.

Next GSAC meeting: April 16, 2026