DATE: March 5, 2012

TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Instruction and Curriculum

SUBJECT: 11-12 CIC 12: Removal of Postbaccalaureate Grades from Graduate Grade Point Average

PURPOSE: Action by the Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the language below regarding the limited removal of postbaccalaureate grades from graduate students’ graduate grade point average for inclusion in the Graduate Information Chapter of the University Catalog.

“Your graduate program coordinator or department chair has the discretion to request that grades in courses that do not count towards your graduate degree requirements be excluded from your GPA calculation. This will be permitted only if those grades result in your placement on academic probation. (These may include courses taken in a second baccalaureate program, courses taken in a different graduate degree program, courses taken to satisfy prerequisites, etc. They may not be courses taken in your degree program that you subsequently elect not to count toward your graduate program requirements.) The request not to include a grade in your GPA calculation must be submitted by your graduate coordinator or department chair to the Office of Academic Programs and Graduate Studies, which makes the final determination regarding the request. This may be done at any time while you are in the degree program, but may not be done after you have been awarded your degree.”

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Currently all grades taken by a student in any postbaccalaureate status count in that student’s CSUEB graduate grade point average. This includes any courses used in a second baccalaureate degree, as well as courses taken through open university, in unclassified postbacc status, to satisfy program prerequisites, or while in another graduate program. This GPA is then used to place students on academic probation and on review for possible disqualification. However, the CSUEB Catalog states that students will be placed on probation (and potentially disqualified) if their GPA in coursework applicable to their degree falls below 3.0. Therefore, the current system may place students on probation and for consideration for disqualification for courses that are not applicable to their degree, contrary to the University Catalog.

The proposed policy would allow students to request that grades that are not applicable to their degree be removed from their CSUEB graduate GPA calculation. This will only be permissible if those grades are causing them to be on academic probation.