Minutes of the Graduate Programs Subcommittee  
April 28, 2016  
SF 328  
2:00 pm – 3:50 pm

Present: Lynn Eudey, Cathy Inouye, Joanna Lee, Asha Rao, Linda Smetana, Holly Vugia, Mitchell Watnik, Donna Wiley (Chair), Ke Zou.  
Absent: Karen Mucci.  
Guests: Nancy Mangold, Zinovy Radovilsky, Christian Roessler, Chongqi Wu.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05.

1. Approval of the agenda. (M Eudey/S Smetana/P). Reports and minutes approval were moved to the end to accommodate colleagues from CBE.  
2. Action Items (See Curriculog for all program modification proposals)  
   a. M.S. in Business Analytics. (M Smetana/S Vugia/P unanimous) to accept the program proposal, with the understanding that minor editorial changes may occur. Wu explained that the prerequisites for the degree program have been altered. In addition, there are 2 new courses and a new capstone. The capstone will be 3 semester-units, whereas currently it is 1 quarter-unit. This was recommended by industry advisors. There was discussion about whether more of the ILOs should be listed and it was noted that, while the program could list outcomes such as collaboration, there might be a sense that these would be required to be assessed. It was further noted that the priority on the PLOs was for ones used by the accrediting body.  
   i. Request for degree title change (from M.S. Business Administration, Option in Business Analytics to M.S. Business Analytics). (M Rao/S Lee/P) to approve. Wu said that there are around 80 programs in the world on this topic. The vast majority use the title “Business Analytics” or “Analytics”. Cal Poly SLO uses “M.S. Business Analytics”. The title better reflects the program and its curriculum. The title also allows the program to be considered to be “STEM”, allowing longer OPT. Wiley said that the program goes to CIC, not CAPR, since there are no resource implications.  
   b. M.S. Economics (with two concentrations). (M Eudey/S Zou/P unanimous) to accept the program proposal, with the understanding that minor editorial changes may occur. Roessler noted that there have been major transformations moving from quarter to semesters. There will be more quantitative emphases. Watnik suggested listing STAT 110 (Business Statistics), rather than STAT 100 as the program prerequisite. Students will have to have one of the concentrations.
Watnik directed a comment to the department about ECON 610, but it was not relevant to the approval of the program.

i. Request for degree type change (M.A. to M.S). (M Eudey/S Smetana/P) This part of the proposal must pass through CIC per usual policy. There was discussion about the difference between the two types administratively. There are policies regarding BA vs. BS, but it is not clear that those extend here. Roessler noted that the program is more quantitative, which matches more with the MS in the field. Roessler said that the MS denotes a quantitative skill set and therefore “matters to employers.” This might also facilitate consideration as a “STEM” discipline.

c. M.S. Accountancy. (M Eudey/S Zou/P unanimous) to accept the program proposal, with the understanding that minor editorial changes may occur. Wiley said that this is a self-support only program. Mangold said that the program is intended to meet licensing requirements. There is not much room within state law for creativity. The State requires 30 semester units (in accounting and ethics) above a bachelor’s degree prior to licensing and the units are defined by law. The program actually requires 33 units, including the capstone. Initially, the capstone was 1 unit, but there was concern about workload and the capstone was changed to 3 units. The program will take 1.5 years (instead of the current 1 year on quarters). The reason for the change is that the courses are offered over the weekends as 3 courses per term and it is not possible to have 4 courses per term, which would be needed in the semester model. There are 12 units of foundation courses. Watnik asked about “BUS 201-2” in the foundation courses. Mangold said that those will be changed to ACCT, as this is part of the accounting requirements. There was a question about the costs for being self-support and Mangold noted that Extension is actually less expensive, because there isn’t the “professional fee”. Faculty teach courses on overload through Extension to address accreditation issues. The program is still considered “pilot”. Mangold said that, in the first cohort, all but some international students got appropriate jobs within 6 months of graduation. The capstone course involves 7 projects.

d. M.B.A. (with seven concentrations). (M Inouye/S Vugia/P unanimous) to accept the program proposal, with the understanding that minor editorial changes may occur. Lee explained the MBA program, including the foundational courses. She noted that there is wide variety of backgrounds coming to the University for the program—some just getting their bachelor’s, some working for many years. Some students get in via interview and others use the GMAT. There is an effort at placement, with some students needing foundational or
“boot camp” training. This in part addresses the “proficiency in math or statistics” in the admissions requirements. The “General Business” concentration is the “no option option”.

3. Approval of minutes.
   a. March 10. (M Vugia/S Inouye/P)
   b. April 12. (M Vugia/S Smetana/P)

4. Reports.
   a. Semester Conversion Report. No representative of semester conversion. Watnik suggested that the time modules task force might have a proposal going forward soon.
   b. Chair. The Chair thanked the subcommittee and indicated she was happy with the progress of the proposals. She thinks that Statistics, History, Engineering will be on the next agenda. She noted that CEAS has no proposals coming to APGS yet.

5. Adjournment. (M Inouye/S Eudey/P). The meeting was adjourned 3:47.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitchell Watnik, subcommittee secretary