



**GRADUATE FACULTY GOVERNANCE COUNCIL  
Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2020**

**Meeting Location:** via Zoom

*GFGC Chair* Sofield called the meeting to order at 12:03 a.m., welcoming a total of 18 attendees (roster attached).

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Consent Agenda:** Meeting minutes of 04-14-2020 were approved and posted to the [GFGC website](#).

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Study Group Update:** Mark Staton reported that because of immigration restrictions imposed shortly after Western entered a contract with Study Group two years ago to increase international student enrollment, and now the situation with COVID-19, there are currently no Study Group recruits in the Pre-Masters Program (PMP).

**UPRC Representative Update:** *Vice-chair & UPRC Rep* Beth Boland and *Interim Dean* Dave Patrick gave a brief update on the Decision Package (DP) submitted by GFGC. Patrick noted that if the DP goes forward to the State Legislature, the DP may need to be revised for its new audience. Note: Boland's two-year term is up at the end of Spring Quarter. She encouraged GFGC members to consider volunteering.

**Bylaws Amendments & Ad Hoc Committee Reports:** *Chair* Sofield asked for all Bylaws edits to submitted to her by the end of the day. GFGC members can expect to see an edited version by Friday, which will then be posted on the GFGC website, emailed out to graduate faculty, and voted on by GFGC members after a 10-day open comment period. The goal is to have the amended Bylaws operative by May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Members of ad hoc committees (Curriculum Committee, Program Reviews Committee, and Graduate Student Research Committee) gave updates on their efforts to lay the structural and procedural groundwork for their respective committees. *Chair* Sofield noted that in order to achieve a five-year program review cycle, GFGC would need to review 6.5 programs per year.

**Update on Interim Grading Policy:** Craig Dunn reported that discussion of the interim grading policy continuing in some form in Summer Quarter was tabled at Faculty Senate. *Interim Dean* Dave Patrick reported he expects an announcement from the Provost's office early next week.

**Items from the Dean:** *Interim Dean* Dave Patrick reported that, compared to the same date last year, applications are up 4.1%, admits are up 7%, and confirmed admits are up 15.4%. He also reminded GFGC members about Give Day and noted that this year all funds donated to [The Graduate School Fund](#) would be added to the [Student Emergency Fund](#).

**Meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.**

VOTING ATTENDEES			NON-VOTING ATTENDEES	
Craig Dunn	Management (GS)	P	<b>Ex Officio members</b>	
Clint Spiegel	Chemistry (CSE)	P	David Patrick, <i>Interim Dean, Graduate School</i>	P
Linda Keeler	Health and Human Development (CHSS)	P	Michael Barr, <i>Associate Dean, Graduate School</i>	P
Elizabeth Boland (Vice-Chair)	Health and Community Studies (WCE)	P	<b>Recorder</b>	
Ruth Sofield (Chair)	Environmental Science (HCE)	P	Dayna Patterson, <i>Graduate School</i>	P
Patty Bourne	Music (CFPA)	P	<b>Guests</b>	
Mark Staton	Finance & Mktg (CBE)	P	Megan Spiegel, <i>Graduate School</i>	P
Gabe Gossett	Library	P		
Chris Loar	English (CHSS)	P		
Kristi Lemm	Psychology (CHSS)	P		
<b>At Large</b>			<b>Student members</b>	
			Jasmine Balasa, <i>GSAC</i>	--
Tammi Laninga	Environmental Studies	P	Preston Smith, <i>GSAC</i>	--
Robert Mitchell	Geology	P	Patrick Czichas, <i>AS</i>	P
Wayne Landis	Environmental Science	P	José Cervantes-Aguilar, <i>AS</i>	--
			<b>Voting attendees</b>	14
			<b>Non-voting attendees</b>	4
			<b>TOTAL ATTENDEES</b>	18