

**Graduate Administrative Council (GAC)**  
**Minutes for Thursday, February 27, 2014**  
**BAL 9024**  
**9:00 am to 10:30 am**

Attending: Brenda Neumon Lewis, Chair, Iva Stoyneva, Craig Bayse, Ravi Mukkamala, David Selover, Isao Ishibashi, Brian Payne, Bill Heffelfinger, Richardean Benjamin, Imtiaz Habib, Ali Ardalán, Lynn Ridinger, Robert Wojtowicz

Guest Speaker: Corey van Vlymen

**Approval of February 13, 2014 Minutes**

Minutes were approved as submitted.

**Discussion GA employment regulations**

Corey van Vlymen explained the current updates on his work in regards to SACS policy about GA employment. He clarified specific aspects of the policy that varies between the difference colleges and the different programs.

He also explained summer enrollment issues in regards to GAs. He specified that some departments only have a budget for GAs for the fall and spring semesters, and no money for summer. In these cases some students get converted to hourly employees for the s the beginning of every Fall semester.

Other specific student cases that were discussed in regards to GA employment were: international students, cross-listed students.

Corey van Vlymen also mentioned upcoming changes in the health insurance policies for GAs due to the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Ardalán asked if he can figure out if a student has been employed in another department.

Corey van Vlymen said that this information is available on Banner, or they can call HR to find this information.

Dr. Lewis said that she thinks that the university agreed that to stay within guidelines, students should not work more than 29 hours a week.

Corey van Vlymen agreed. He clarified that he is talking more about hours worked not class hours.

Dr Ardalán stated that for each 3 credit hours, the expectation is 9 hours of work per week.

Dr. Wojtowicz said that Arts and Letters went through trouble with the SACS policy. He brought up his concern with adjunct shortage in some of the departments. He said that in some departments, first year students are teaching classes.

Corey van Vlymen stayed that it depends on the type of degree. Terminal degrees such, as an MFA, are allowed to teach.

Dr. Wojtowicz said that it was his understanding that, with supervision, graduate TA can teach session as instructors of record.

Corey van Vlymen said that Banner is about ranking credentials and the instructor on record should be the supervisor in most cases. If the student came in to the

Dr. Wojtowicz said that he needs to get this information

Van Vlymen explained the history of how issues with regulations and tracking data have changes throughout the years. He is said that reporting formats are also currently changing.

Dr. Benjamin asked about the large purpose of these changes as they relate to the unique circumstance of VA.

Corey van Vlymen stated that the process has not been finalized, and that SACS is still collecting data

## **Discussion NAGPS**

Dr. Lewis updated council about the progress with the organization of the NAGPS regional conference. She asked the council to support outstanding students to attend