Minutes
Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
September 14, 2018

Members in Attendance: A. Miller, A. Nelson, A. Rellergert, A. Trees, B. Looker, C. Rolling, D.
Stallings, G. Bledsoe, G. L.C. Yosten, J. Curley, J. Garcia-Martinez, K. Thatcher, M. McCormick, M.
Albers, N. Reed, R. Wood, and S. Mudigonda

Guest in Attendance: S. Sanchez

Call to Order: R. Wood called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

Approval of Minutes from the May 11, 2018 Meeting: Minutes from the May 11, 2018
meeting were unanimously approved.

HLC Accreditation Process:

-Dr. Sanchez stated the reason for this meeting is due to an internal audit office here at
SLU that is outsourced by PWC. They did an audit last year of our accreditations processes at
the University, mainly focusing on institutional level accreditations with HCL and program level
accreditations, 40 plus programs that have various forms of accreditations. Because of the
audit, not enough people do not know about the Institutional Level HLC accreditations and do
not understand it quite well enough to be meaningful. Our response from the Provost Office
was to get out to our Curriculum Committees (UAAC, GAAC and UUCC) to do a
presentation/discussion so the folks making the decisions about curriculum know the facts or at
least know who to contact if have any questions. We have agreed to do this on a yearly basis.
 -Dr. Sanchez shared a document that is given to all new Board of Trustee members on
accreditation on both University and Program Level. He wanted to highlight 2 bullet points - #1
and #2, What is accreditation for, primarily for 1) Improvement of overall College/University
quality and 2) Compliance with external requirements ʹ If you would like to obtain a detailed
copy one can be provided.
 -Dr. Sanchez advised us HLC are like all of us ʹ Faculty, Staff, Associate Deans etc. All
volunteer. Dr. Sanchez serves as one and many others.
 -Dr. Sanchez shared another document that discussed the 5 Criteria/Standard points on
the HLC Criteria ʹ If you would like to obtain a detailed copy one can be provided. The 5 Criteria
points are as follows: (#3 and #4 affect the Curriculum Committees the most)
1) Mission - Do you have a mission statement and understood

do another report and submit in 2018. That report was submitted September 4, 2018. If
you would like to see a detailed report, it can be obtained on the Provost Website under
Accreditations.
Grad Catalog Policy Changes- No report now
Proposal of delivery of SLU programs on the Madrid Campus: More informational for GAAC,
making changes to just the way approvals occurs. Madrid is now given an option to veto things.
No action items for GAAC.
Bylaws: - adding Assessment Coordinator to our membership, which is Kathleen Thatcher ʹ this
needs to be voted. Unanimously approved. Welcome Kathleen.
Meeting adjourned at 1021am