




DATE: October 19, 2021
FROM: William A. Covino, President 
TO: Talia Bettcher, Chair, Academic Senate

SUBJECT: Proposed Policy Modification: Direction of Graduate Theses and Projects

I am returning the above titled proposed policy unsigned. The practice for managing workload for supervision courses (which includes graduate theses and projects) was established as the result of a settlement between CFA and Cal State LA in July 2015. Therefore, it is not appropriate to ask colleges and departments/divisions/schools to develop policies. I would therefore approve the policy with the following changes:

1. Line 3 and 4 remove
2. Line 7 remove "AND COLLEGE COMMITTEES"
3. Line 8 remove "policies"
4. Lines 9-13 remove "ALL POLICIES REGARDING ALLOCATION OF UNITS FOR FACULTY SUPERVISION OF STUDENT RESEARCH, CREATIVE, AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT. including policies governing the allocation of units generated by graduate directed studies and theses projects."
5. In summary, I would sign a revised modification that reads as follows:

Direction of Graduate Theses and Projects

(Senate: 2/9/07; President: 10/10/07)

The completion of graduate theses or projects may be an important part of the professional development of graduate students. As such, they demand substantial amounts of faculty time and effort. Accordingly, in consultation with the college dean, each college and each department/division/school shall develop policies and procedures to provide appropriate recognition of COMPENSATION FOR faculty directing graduate theses and projects. including policies governing the allocation of units generated by graduate directed studies and theses projects.

1 Direction of Graduate Theses and Projects

2 (Senate: 2/9/07; President: 10/10/07)

3 GOVERNING DOCUMENTS: EP&R 76-36 IN MOU "ARTICLE 20 CHANGES," APPENDIX H OF THE
4 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.

5 The completion of graduate theses or projects may be an important part of the professional development
6 of graduate students. As such, they demand substantial amounts of faculty time and effort. Accordingly,
7 in consultation with the college dean AND COLLEGE COMMITTEES, each college and each
8 department/division/school shall develop policies and procedures to provide appropriate recognition of
9 COMPENSATION FOR faculty directing graduate theses and projects. ALL POLICIES REGARDING
10 ALLOCATION OF UNITS FOR FACULTY SUPERVISION OF STUDENT RESEARCH, CREATIVE,
11 AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
12 AGREEMENT. including policies governing the allocation of units generated by graduate directed studies
13 and theses projects.
14
15



Date: November 16, 2021

To: Dr. Talia Bettcher
Chair, Academic Senate, Executive Committee of the Senate

From: Heidi Riggio, Chair
Faculty Policy Committee (FPC)

Copies: A. Avramchuk, D. Fazzi, C. Flint, J. Lazo-Uy, R. Roquemore, V. Salcido

Subject: **EC 20-24.1: Direction of Graduate Theses and Projects**

Dear Chair Bettcher and members of Executive Committee,

Faculty Policy Committee (FPC) considered the changes suggested by President Covino to the modification of the policy on Direction of Graduate Theses and Projects (FPC 20-17), which was unanimously approved by Faculty Policy Committee and approved by the Senate on May 4, 2021. FPC acquiesces to the changes from President Covino regarding removal of lines 3 and 4 (referring to the Governing Documents); the removal of the words “*and College committees*” on line 7; and the removal of language added to lines 9 through 13 (“*All policies regarding allocation of units for faculty supervision of student research, scholarly, and creative activities must be consistent with the Collective Bargaining Agreement*”). However, FPC will not agree to the removal of the words “*policies and*” on line 8 in the current policy, as this modification was not indicated by FPC and not approved by FPC or by the Senate. Further, although President Covino correctly indicates that the CFA-CSU settlement agreement from 2015 is a governing document, the settlement agreement does not disallow policymaking by the Colleges (and in fact, several College policies on s-factor appear on the Faculty Affairs website, and others indicate that policies are “in progress”).

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me directly if you have questions or concerns.

1 Direction of Graduate Theses and Projects

2 (Senate: 2/9/07; President: 10/10/07)

3 The completion of graduate theses or projects may be an important part of the professional development
4 of graduate students. As such, they demand substantial amounts of faculty time and effort. Accordingly,
5 in consultation with the college dean, each college and each department/division/school shall develop policies
6 and procedures to provide appropriate recognition of COMPENSATION FOR faculty directing graduate
7 theses and projects including policies governing the allocation of units generated by graduate directed studies
8 and these projects.