

Graduate Council Minutes

January 13, 2017

Attendance: Emilia Alonso-Sameno, Tim Anderson, Ian Armstrong, Steve Bergmeier, Terry Cluse-Tolar, Geoff Dabelko, Bose Maposa, Sonsoles De Lacalle, Pete Harrington, Alex Hibbitt, Jennifer Horner, David Koonce, Natalie Kruse Daniels, Krisanna Machtmes, Chris Moberg, Maria Modayil, Greg Newton, Shawn Ostermann, Ann Paulins, Joseph Shields, Gaurav Sinha, Scott Smith, Spencer Smith, and Katherine Tadlock.

Excused: Andrea Frohne, Janet Hulm, Chulho Jung, Jody Lamb, Brian McCarthy, Erik Ramsey, Gursel Suer.

Guest: Kelly Broughton

Convened: The meeting was convened at 3:07 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes of the December 2, 2016 meeting

The minutes of the December 2, 2016 meeting were approved.

2. UCC: Kelly Broughton

Kelly said that the task force chaired by Beth Quitsland recommended a way to improve efficiency for proposing course changes and new programs. She added that the risk analysis for programs that are approved through the exceptions process is completed by the program proposer and by the academic college. She cited the example of ROTC not having a way to credential students who go through their program and this exceptions process was able to accommodate that.

Kelly said that she expects UCC to be conservative about applying this policy. Tim said that some of the concern stems from the fact that the risk responsibility lies with the Dean since the program does not go through all the steps required for vetting. Jen said that it does not seem that the Dean's council has discussed this thoroughly. She added that many questions about the origin and purpose of the policy still remain. A thorough discussion about the kinds of risks at stake needs to happen as well. Jen said that discussions need to also focus on financial aid eligibility and following HLC guidelines. Joe said that since the Deans are invoked in this draft, they have to be comfortable with this proposal. Kelly said that the Deans have programs that they would like to propose and want something like this that would facilitate the approval of those programs.

3. Chair's report, Steve Bergmeier:

Steve said that he would like to end the meeting by 4:15 pm, so that members can have the opportunity to attend the open forum being held today at 4:30 pm in the Ball Room for one of the presidential candidates.

He welcomed Natalie, who will be attending the meetings in Ani's place this semester.

Steve said that an ad hoc committee which has Jen, Shawn, and Brian on it is in place and will discuss graduate faculty status with EPSA.

4. Remarks by Joe Shields, Dean of the Graduate College

Joe said that the Masters in Global Health will be presented to the Chancellor's Council on Graduate Studies in a couple of weeks.

He said that the second annual Three Minute Thesis competition (3MT) for graduate students will be held on February 15th, 2017.

5. Remarks by David Koonce, Associate Dean of the Graduate College

David said that last year's 3MT was a wonderful event.

David said that we are running ahead in the number of applications compared with numbers for the last four years. All the growth has been in domestic applications in online programs.

Chris said that currently the online MBA program has 700 students.

David informed members that per the change in federal guidelines about international students, the admission eligibility logic is being updated.

David said that per the discussion last month about students who are on Fellowships and Katie's information from other institutions, students will be asked to meet with the appropriate person in HR to help them address tax issues.

6. Remarks by Katie Tadlock, Assistant Dean of the Graduate College

Katie said that she has been working through the below 3.0 GPA report and is reaching out to programs as appropriate. She added that some students can benefit from information about enhancing their study skills. Katie said that the Graduate Writing and Research Center and the Allen Advising Center can help students. Shawn thanked Katie for working on this report.

7. Report from the Curriculum Committee

Tim said that there seem to be no questions regarding the Visual Communication program.

Chris said that the questions raised by other institutions in Ohio regarding the Masters in Accounting have been addressed and are available in the Appendix. He said that if the full proposal is approved, it can be presented to the Board of Trustees in April. It was noted that Graduate Council could still comment on it at the February meeting.

Discussion focused on the number of hours required for earning a certificate and the overlap possible with other certificates. Certificates provide a way for students to learn specialized content in an area, and offer an interdisciplinary perspective about a topic. Members noted that it is important to set standards regarding duplication of courses taken by students who pursue multiple certificates. It was noted that special attention should be given to ensuring that the capstone course cannot be counted twice, since that would be akin to one thesis being used

to satisfy the requirements for two degrees. Steve said that he would write to Kelly to convey that more discussion needs to take place about this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.