

Graduate Council Minutes

Friday, October 13, 2017

Attendance: Tim Anderson, Steve Bergmeier, Gordon Brooks, Terry Cluse-Tolar, Megan Conkle, Geoffrey Dabelko, Lorna Jean Edmonds, Travis Gatling, Janet Hulm, Wojciech Jadwisienczak, Chulho Jung, David Koonce, Brian McCarthy, Maria Modayil, Greg Newton, Shawn Ostermann, Ann Paulins, Andrew Ray, Joseph Shields, Jennifer Smith, Scott Smith, and Katherine Tadlock

Excused: Emilia Alonso-Sameno, Seth Baker, Sonsoles DeLaCalle, Charlotte Elster, Pete Harrington, Alexandra Hibbitt, Jennifer Horner, Chris Moberg, Erik Ramsey, and Gaurav Sinha

Convened: The meeting was convened at 3:09 pm.

1. **Approval of the minutes of the September 8, 2017 meeting**

The minutes of the September 8, 2017 meeting were approved.

2. **Chair's Report: Steve Bergmeier**

Steve welcomed the new GSS members, Seth Baker and Megan Conkle.

Steve mentioned that Eric Ramsey will be absent from Graduate Council for some time.

3. **Remarks by Dean of the Graduate College: Joe Shields**

Joe had no comments and turned the floor over to David Koonce for announcements.

4. **Remarks by Associate Dean of the Graduate College: David Koonce**

David informed members that applications are looking good, however, there is a concerning trend with international applications. They are down by 35%.

The Graduate College migration to the new website is scheduled to go live November 2, 2017. There are many questions about this migration and may be a mad race until the end.

During the week of October 16th at the Chancellor's retreat, the group will be facing a big issue, the program revision process. The current reviewing process is quite burdensome and since the Chancellor's Council of Graduate Schools (CCGS) put this on themselves, they will be considering a redesign of the process.

David understands that the Chart of Accounts testing is occurring.

David asked the council to consider a Graduate Assistant Parental Leave policy. David provided an example from Ohio State University. In addition, he offered that upon speaking with dean at OSU, OSU had little trouble implementing this policy. David sent a copy of this policy to Human Resources (HR) for their review and HR did not have any concerns about the policy. In addition, David distributed information discussed and passed by Graduate Council in Spring of 2015.

Discussion by Graduate Council members included some concerns about the delineation between an employee and a graduate student. In addition, members expressed concern about the use of "will be relieved" in the previously passed language and suggested a

change to “is eligible to be relieved”. In addition, it was suggested adding the following language to the policy “must be enrolled in and regularly participating in courses”. David proposed policy go to committee for further review and the council agreed

David informed Graduate Council that the Graduate College is collecting admission offers letters in an effort to identify commonalities and standardized language in all offer letter.

5. Remarks by Assistant Dean of the Graduate College: Katie Tadlock

In an effort to serve our international student population better, there are two upcoming changes that will improve the efficiency, security, and ease of sending form I-20 to admitted applicants.

First, when a person comes in to pick up an I-20, they *must* provide the Graduate College staff with some type of photo identification. If the Graduate College staff recognizes a faculty member or staff from a specific department, they may waive the request for identification.

The second change is the addition of the e-ship Global option for sending out I-20s to students. Students simply sign up on e-Ship Global’s website, select the Graduate College, pay for the shipment, and the Graduate College will send it to them from our office.

Andy Ray mentioned that using this method will allow information to get to Iran as well.

In terms of English Proficiency, in the past, the Graduate application only allowed one answer and we are not sure that this information is reflecting information accurately. So, to remedy this, the Graduate College has expanded the application to include additional options. This offers more choices and an applicant can choose a bi-lingual or multi-lingual option. An applicant can list up to four languages. This will offer more robust information about our applicants. In addition, you can continue to ask them to enter a TOEFL score.

The Graduate College recognizes that you may know additional information about an applicant regarding their English proficiency, so please the Graduate College know that information.

Katie mentioned the need to revisit a discussion about senior for grad credit and a push for revision. She mentioned that there is increasing interest in 4 plus 1 degree. On dynamic impacting this is the college credit plus program where students arrive on-campus with too few hours to complete. Graduate Council may need to address this changing dynamic.

6. Bridge Committee discussion led by Tim Anderson

Program Review Committee—Tim Anderson outlined the role Graduate Council plays in the review of programs. Graduate Council can choose to give a response or not. The

response may agree with recommendations of the committee or give unique comments that support graduate education. Graduate Council reviewed the following programs.

i. Human and Consumer Sciences

Tim summarized the program report stating that the program is described as viable, but liable to be in jeopardy. There is concern with retention of faculty, morale issues, and perhaps a hiatus for graduate program may be in order.

Graduate Council comments included the following:

- The Master's program is impacted by the priority mission of this program being an undergraduate program. The master's students could contribute and support the undergraduate program with experience.
- Another review in a short period of time may be the approach. Hiring an external chair – may be a good strategy.
- Do not recommend the hiatus approach as this would be disruptive to the faculty and program.

Based on this feedback, Tim will draft something from the Graduate Council.

ii. Linguistics

Tim summarize this report and the viability of this program. He stated that there are many concerns which include the number of faculty (three fewer faculty – one group 2 faculty member, two group1 faculty members). There are concerns about OPIE and whether it should it be separated from Linguistics, although an external reviewer suggested not separating the two. Some options include: Move linguistics to modern languages, conduct another review in 3 years, and replace group one faculty.

Graduate Council comments included the following:

- What is the role of Graduate Council in terms of process?
- The loss of faculty lines is a real loss to the department and this happened right before the seven-year review was scheduled.
- The departure of the faculty put the graduate education portion in jeopardy, we need to consider many options.
- Suggest we support the report in terms of Linguistics and support hiring additional faculty.
- If the intention is keep a graduate program in Linguistics, we support the addition of more faculty.
- Do we as a body need to offer more teeth?
- The Graduate Council We agreed, it is not viable unless Group 1 faculty are hired. The loss of scholarship and creativity of the faculty is having an impact of graduation education.

Based on this feedback, Tim will draft something from the Graduate Council.

iii. Film

Graduate Council supported the summary of the report stating that the program is viable and encouraged the hiring of Group 1 faculty.

Based on this feedback, Tim will draft something from the Graduate Council.

iv. Art and Design

Tim asked that Graduate Council please review this report for next time.

v. Information and Telecommunication System

Tim asked that Graduate Council please review this report for next time.

AQIP process—Tim provided materials about the AQIP process for Graduate Council's information.

7. Old Business

None

8. New Business

i. ETD proposal from Creative Writing

Brian McCarthy summarized the proposal from Dinty Moore about the concern of publishing the creative writing works of the masters and doctoral students in the TAD process is impacting these students ability to work with publishers to publish their work. Could TAD publish only the preface? Or place a longer embargo on the TAD publication.

After significant discussion Graduate Council suggest that this go to committee for further review and discussion at next meeting.

ii. Profusion degree in collaboration with Cleveland Clinic

Graduate Council tabled this discussion until next meeting.

Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 pm.