

Graduate Council Minutes **Friday, April 10, 2020**

Attendance: Gordon Brooks, Geoff Dabelko, Charlotte Elster, Andrew Fodor, Pete Harrington, Arthur Hughes, Janet Hulm, Wojciech Jadwisienczak, Paul Jones, David Koonce, Joseph Lee, Sally Marinellie (proxy Kathy Spicer), Brian McCarthy, Greg Newton, Eric Nichols, Patrick O'Connor, Shawn Ostermann, Ann Paulins, Beth Quitslund, Erik Ramsey, Andy Ray, Assan Sarr, Carol Schaumleffel, Joe Shields, Jennifer Smith, Katie Tadlock, Dareen Tadros, and Lijing Yang

Excused: Andrea Frohne, Alex Hibbitt, and Jacob Kemp

Convened: The meeting was convened at 3:14 p.m.

1. Approval of the minutes for the March 6, 2020 meeting

Action – Council approved minutes.

2. Chair's Report: Gordon Brooks

Gordon did not contact the Office of Global Affairs for this meeting but can if people are still interested. Let him know if you would like the Office of Global Affairs to come to an upcoming meeting.

An alternative grading option for graduate classes will be coming out soon. David will talk about this during his update.

3. Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Report: Dareen Tadros

GSS is looking at how to support graduate students and they are considering establishing microgrants. Look for more information soon.

GSS has been collaborating with others on the grading policy and are supportive of this alternative option.

GSS was to host Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week, but due to COVID-19, events have been suspended. GSS will be hosting a final event online and invites everyone to participate.

GSS elections have occurred and GSS is in transition with the new leadership team.

GSS voted to increase Original Work Grant (OWG) funding awards to a maximum of \$1,000.00 up from \$750.00.

Awarding of the Spring Travel Awards has been suspended and GSS hopes to resume funding in the summer, contingent on the university travel policy.

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

- a. An alternative grading policy for graduate courses will be coming out soon. This policy mirrors what others are doing in the state. The policy is modified slightly from what was offered for undergraduate students. In overview, any graduate student with an earned C or higher can request the grade be replaced with an S for satisfactory. This S will meet degree requirements. Students must choose this option.
Any earned grade of C-minus or below will be converted to NC (No Credit) and will not meet the degree requirement for completion.
There will be a petition process, like the undergraduate student process.
There is a need to make sure student scholarships are not compromised with this process.
Any concerns should be directed to the associate dean of research for each college.
- b. As for probation, no student will go on probation for spring term, if they develop a plan to get to a cumulative GPA of 3.00 in one full-time term or two part-time terms.
Students who are currently on probation will not be removed after this semester, however, no student will be dismissed after this semester.
- c. David reminded the council of the TAD update sent to all graduate students in late March. If anyone has questions, please consult with the Director of Thesis and Dissertation Services, Dr. Cynthia Tindongan.
- d. David is seeing an increase in the number of English proficiency waiver requests. TOEFL now has an online version. Many schools have moved to using Duo-lingo; however, Ohio University prefers other methods rather than Duo-lingo.
- e. The Graduate College is offering virtual office hours. These office hours are split by topic and include general questions, international matters, registration & tuition appeals, TAD, and graduate chairs. The graduate chairs session is the most well attended.
- f. Applications for summer are up 12%; fall applications are down 4%.
- g. Some schools are suggesting international applicants start online for fall and then on-campus in January. Ohio University may explore this option soon. As a reminder, international students cannot teach online classes from their home countries. They must be in the U.S.
If there is not clarity soon, we may need to develop a plan about what to do with international students.

- h. The Governor would like to begin something like the Forever Buckeye program for those who graduate with a bachelor's degree from a public institution within the state of Ohio and want to continue to graduate school. The hope is this kind of program would encourage these graduates to stay in the state for their graduate degrees. This may impact online graduate students.
- 5. Remarks by Dean of the Graduate College: Joe Shields

Joe reminded the council of the "Bobcats Take Care" microgrants program. Ohio University is committed to coordinate this initiative centrally and graduate students are eligible to apply. As a reminder, people can still donate to this fund.

There are other grants available for students as well. Students need to check the criteria for each grant and be sure they qualify.

The Student Expo pivoted quickly to a virtual event and had more than 300 students participate.
- 6. Remarks by Assistant Dean of the Graduate College: Katie Tadlock
 - a. Katie introduced the proposed FY 2021 TAD Deadlines. Katie asked whether there were concerns. The council expressed no concerns.
 - b. Katie reminded everyone that the university does have a laptop and hotspot loaner program. If students are interested, they should consult with the assistant dean of their college.
 - c. Katie has been fielding questions about commencement and regalia refunds. Information is available on the main commencement web page.
 - d. Katie mentioned the changed approach to TAD for the summer. The council mentioned the need to consider a strategy for summer access to university services if students are not registered.
 - e. Katie reminded the council that if a student knows they are not going to successfully pass, instead of getting a NC (No Credit), they can withdraw. This deadline has been extended.
- 7. Remarks by Graduate College Faculty Fellow: Beth Quitslund

The curriculum clean-up is nearly complete.

The accelerated Pathways is at UCC and a vote is expected soon.
- 8. Curriculum Committee
 - a. New Programs:

- i. CTX60G - Sports Coaching Certificate
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=115927>
The council had no concerns.
- ii. CTX16G - Sports Leadership Certificate
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=115903>
The council had no concerns.
- iii. NDAXX2 - Accelerated Graduate Pathway Marketing
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=115947>
The council had no concerns.

b. Program Changes:

- i. MS8162 - ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=113624>
The council had no concerns.
- ii. MS6471 - FOOD AND NUTRITION SCI
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=114696>
The council had no concerns.
- iii. MM5184 - MUSIC THEORY
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=105108>
The council had no concerns.
- iv. MS8163 - Coaching Education - Soccer
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=112730>
The council had no concerns.

c. Graduate Catalog Cleanup:

- i. MS6469 - Child and Family Studies
<https://webapps-legacy.ohio.edu/ocean/document/view.htm?docId=115936>
The council had no concerns.

9. Program Review Committee

Nothing to report.

10. Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee

The committee recommends adding a question to the application materials identifying for which named fellowship the nominee is nominated. This would make the review process streamlined for the committee.

The Presidential Graduate Student Medals will be announced at the GSS Graduate & Professional Student Appreciation Week online event.

11. Policies and Regulations Committee

The committee surveyed other Ohio institutions about their teaching assistant conflict of interest

policies. There are similarities amongst all these, which is no surprise because this all stems from both federal and state law. Most are about personal relationships.

The committee recommends staying with the current policy and possibly offer an FAQ on the topic, like what Ohio State offers. Greg will share the link with everyone.

12. Recruitment and Admission Requirements Committee

a. Conflicts of Interest

Tyler Congrove, Inter-Collegiate Athletes employee, wants to pursue a healthcare certificate as non-degree.

The committee recommends unconditional admission for him.

Council approves this recommendation.

More cases are in the OneDrive file and will need to be considered at the next meeting.

13. Old Business

Nothing to report.

14. New Business

Nothing to report.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 pm.