

# Graduate Council Minutes

Friday, December 8, 2017

**Attendance:** Emilia Alonso-Sameno, Tim Anderson, Seth Baker, Steve Bergmeier, Gordon Brooks, Terry Cluse-Tolar, Megan Conkle, Geoffrey Dabelko, Sonsoles DeLaCalle, Travis Gatling, Pete Harrington, Janet Hulm, Brian McCarthy, Chris Moberg, Maria Modayil, Greg Newton, Ann Paulins, Jennifer Smith, and Katherine Tadlock

**Excused:** Lorna Jean Edmonds, Charlotte Elster, Alexandra Hibbitt, Jennifer Horner, Wojciech Jadwisienczak, Chulho Jung, David Koonce Shawn Ostermann, Erik Ramsey, Andrew Ray, Joseph Shields, Gaurav Sinha, and Scott Smith

**Convened:** The meeting convened at 3:03 pm.

1. Approval of the minutes of the November 3, 2017 meeting  
Minutes approved
2. Chair's Report: Steve Bergmeier  
Steve announced that Monday night will be the last faculty senate meeting of the term and there will be a Graduate student resolution reading.
3. Remarks by Assistant Dean of the Graduate College: Katie Tadlock
  - a. Katie reviewed the application data and fall graduate student enrollment as of Tuesday, December 5, 2017.  
Applications are at 1,836 applications since Sept 1<sup>st</sup>
    - Down 204 (11%) over last year.
    - Up 38 from 2 years ago.
    - Domestic is down 4.5% and International is down 16%
    - On campus down 7.4% and Elearning down 15.3%Current Fall 2017 graduate headcount (Unique PID): 5,315
  - b. Katie reported on 4+1 programs. The current policy does not give guidance and the Graduate College seeks input. In 4+1 programs, a student must earn 150 total hours, 120 of these hours must be unique hours for an undergraduate degree and 30 unique graduate hours for a master's degree. Students can take these hours concurrently, but they must take no fewer than 150 hours. Financial aid is impacted and the tuition guarantee could be impacted in a 4+1 program. Currently, students can enroll within their last semester (expanded to last year) of undergraduate program and register for some graduate hours, but these students are billed at undergraduate rate. There is a 9-10 hour maximum. Many programs are very interested in trying to get these programs started. The Graduate College seeks input and a recommendation from Graduate Council. This sort of recommendation may require curriculum review with UCC and/or Faculty Senate.
  - c. Katie reviewed the fall commencement numbers - 43 doctoral students are anticipated compared to approximately 100 in the spring. Fall commencement is not really relieving spring commencement, instead more graduates are participating.
4. Curriculum Bridge Committee:

- a. Programs Committee
  - Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading  
Graduate Council asked the following questions:  
How will this program be paid for?  
How will new faculty hire be linked to these classes?  
This program is supported by Graduate Council.
  - Master’s in Law, Justice & Culture – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading  
Comments included: Favorable impression of this program  
Graduate Council asked the following questions:  
How will this program be paid for?  
What faculty implications will this program have?  
This program is supported by Graduate Council.
- b. Program Review Committee  
Nothing to report
- 5. Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee  
Nothing to report
- 6. Planning and Strategy Committee  
Nothing to report
- 7. Policies and Regulations Committee
  - a. Second reading - Childbirth and adoption leave of absence for graduate students – policy proposal  
The committee’s revisions include the following:
    - The committee did not want to stray too far from what HR reviewed.
    - Language was updated.
    - The committee compared this policy with the Faculty by-laws and model this one after that.
    - The committee talked at length about eligibility and recognized that there may need to be caution with the definitions. In other words, applying the policy may require flexibility.
    - The committee mirrored current HR policy.
      - Both parents are eligible.
      - The form was left up to the Graduate College to develop to ensure that important elements are included.
  - b. Graduate Council Comments/Concerns
    - Rewritten policy looks good.
    - Some concern was expressed about where the funding would come from.
    - Concern was expressed about how this policy will affect those funded by external contracts and how this will be handled.
    - Council questioned the eligibility of those graduate students supported by external funds. The council is concerned about creating two groups, those students who qualify for this benefit and those who do not. As a result of this concern, the suggestion was made that the policy include another clause, e.g. “in the event a funding agency cannot fund a leave, Ohio University is committed to pursue alternative funding”.
    - Others expressed concern that by including this language may create additional problems.

- Another concern with the policy as written, is there enough time to shift responsibilities.
- It was suggested that after a year, re-evaluation of the methods may be in order.
- Overall, the council agreed that the policy is nicely written.

Graduate Council supported the policy and recommended that the policy move forward with the current language.

#### 8. Recruitment and Admission Requirements Committee

The committee reviewed 5 Conflict of Interest cases, and recommended to the council that all cases have outlined reasonable ways to move forward.

Graduate Council accepted the committee's recommendations.

#### 9. Old Business

##### a. Update - ETD proposal from Creative Writing

Janet Hulm chaired an ad hoc committee.

- Janet has asked TAD and OHIO Link for additional information, e.g. statistics, trends, etc.
- Currently, the embargo is limited to 5 years.
- As a reminder to the council, most institutions have some level of embargo.
- Ohio University wants to strike a balance between protecting publishing rights and TAD requirements.

##### b. The Council made the following comments/suggestions:

- The council suggested an additional conversation with Dinty Moore to understand why there is a need for a permanent embargo. Janet Hulm agreed to contact Dinty Moore to gather additional information.
- The council suggested a middle ground, perhaps a 3-5 years embargo, with option for renewal.
- The council expressed some concerns about establishing different policies for different disciplines.
- In addition, the council wondered if recent graduates should be contacted to see about their opinions.
- In addition, the council suggested that students opt in rather than out.

#### 10. New Business

- *Meal Plans* - The idea of meal plans for graduate students with graduate appointments is being explored. There will be a spring semester survey of graduate students about their interest in meal plans.
- *Tax Bill* - Some guidance about the impending tax bill was discussed and students are encouraged to call their representatives.
- *Tool* - GSS announced that their Facebook page has a link to the UC-Berkley published tool about potential tax implications.
- *White Paper* - The council agreed that Graduate Council needs to write a short white-paper about the importance of graduate education. Steve volunteered to draft something for next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.