

Graduate Council Minutes

Friday, February 9, 2018

Attendance: Emilia Alonso-Sameno, Tim Anderson, Seth Baker (proxy Becky Salami), Steve Bergmeier, Gordon Brooks, Terry Cluse-Tolar, Geoffrey Dabelko, Sonsoles DeLaCalle, L. J. Edmonds, Travis Gatling, Pete Harrington, Jennifer Horner, Wojciech Jadwisieniczak, David Koonce, Brian McCarthy, Maria Modayil, Greg Newton, Shawn Ostermann, Ann Paulins, Joseph Shields, Jennifer Smith, Scott Smith, and Katherine Tadlock

Excused: Megan Conkle, Charlotte Elster, Alexandra Hibbitt, Janet Hulm, Chulho Jung, Chris Moberg, Erik Ramsey, Andy Ray, and Gaurav Sinha

Convened: The meeting was convened at 3:05 pm.

1. Approval of the minutes of the January 19, 2018 meeting

Minutes approved

2. Chair's Report: Steve Bergmeier

Nothing to report

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

- a. Joe announced that at past Faculty Senate meeting the Graduate Faculty Resolution in its 2nd reading failed. The vote was as follows, 18-18-9, and in a tie vote, the motion fails. The failure of this resolution may indicate emerging accreditation issues which may inform how we proceed now or in the future.
- b. In addition, David who offered information from a Higher Learning Commission document. This document states that faculty who primarily teach must have a terminal degree in their discipline or equivalent credentials. The question of credentialing faculty remains unclear regarding relevant experience.
- c. It was recommended that a structured review process be implemented. One suggestion included Graduate Council offer the definition of "graduate faculty" and the recommended practice that was developed several years ago to Faculty Senate for their review. Members of Graduate Council asked for clarification about whether this is a recommendation or requirement from the state. Upon hearing this is a requirement, members suggested that the definition include language from the Higher Learning Commission's document. In addition, the

council recommended including this language in the program review process as well. Joe stated that he would convey this information back to Faculty Senate.

4. Remarks by Associate Dean of the Graduate College: David Koonce
 - a. Applications were running behind last year's count in all categories.
 - b. David announced the upcoming 3 Minute Thesis competition schedule for both the semi-final rounds and the final round.
 - c. David announced the departure of staff from TAD services and informed the council of the temporary position announcement and its timeline for interviews.
5. Remarks by Assistant Dean of the Graduate College: Katie Tadlock
 - a. Katie requested policy development for accelerated masters programs from the Curriculum Committee. Katie described the accelerated masters programs as a competitive environment which attracts many fee paying students. Katie provided the Curriculum Committee with the key questions to guide the policy development.
6. Curriculum Bridge Committee:
 - a. Program Committee
 - i. Rhetoric & Culture (PH5360) – 2nd notice
Decision: Support from Graduate Council
 - ii. Health Communication (PH5361) – 2nd notice
Decision: Support from Graduate Council
 - iii. Interpersonal and Organizational Communication (PH5362) – 2nd notice
Decision: Support from Graduate Council
 - iv. Certificate Proposal – 1st notice
 1. The council asked the following questions:
 - a. Does a minimum GPA is required for a graduate level certificate?
 - b. In addition, does Graduate Council need to recommend that language be inserted in the Graduate Catalog? Or can colleges decide?
 2. In addition, the council suggested that the concept of “stackable” needs to be defined and a standard developed.

3. After the council discussion, Jen and Tim agreed to review previous information about GPA and bring information to the next meeting.
- b. Program Review Committee
 - i. Economics – Graduate Council agreed with reviewers’ recommendations.
 - ii. Geological Sciences – Graduate Council agreed with reviewers’ recommendations.
 - iii. Sociology and Anthropology – Graduate Council agreed with reviewers’ recommendations.
 - iv. Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies – Graduate Council agreed with reviewers’ recommendations.
7. Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee
 - a. Named Fellowship Update – 17 applications were submitted to date. More are expected. The committee will review the submissions before the next Graduate Council meeting.
8. Planning and Strategy Committee

Nothing to report
9. Policies and Regulations Committee

Nothing to report
10. Recruitment and Admission Requirements Committee

Nothing to report
11. Old Business
 - a. ETD proposal from Creative Writing – Janet Hulm has a proposal for the committee to review and will be bring it to the next meeting.
 - b. White paper – Importance of Graduate Education – Steve is still working on this.
12. New Business

Nothing to report

Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 pm.