

Graduate Council Minutes

March 11, 2016

Attendance: Tim Anderson, Austin Babrow, Steve Bergmeier, Sonsoles De Lacalle, Jennifer Horner, David Koonce, Jody Lamb, Bose Maposa, Vladimir Marchenkov, Brian McCarthy, Chris Moberg, Shawn Ostermann, Ann Paulins, Erik Ramsey, Anirudh Ruhil, Joseph Shields, Gaurav Sinha, Gursel Suer, and Katherine Tadlock.

Excused: Emilia Alonso-Sameno, Geoff Dabelko, Michelle Ferrier, Andrea Frohne, Janet Hulm, Chulho Jung, Jundong Liu, Krisanna Machtmes, Martin Mohlenkamp, Liudmila Pestun, and Carl Smith.

Convened: The meeting was convened at 3:25 pm.

1. Approval of Minutes of the February 12, 2016 meeting

The minutes of the February 12, 2016 meeting were approved.

2. Chair's Report (Steve Bergmeier)

Steve brought members' attention to the graduate faculty status document in the packet and asked members to review it.

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

Joe said that he visited Oak Ridge, TN for a meeting of Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU), which OHIO recently joined. He noted that this organization works closely with Oak Ridge National Lab and other federal agencies, and draws on the expertise of its 120 member universities to carry out a wide range of contract work with an annual budget of \$390. Joining the group will not only increase opportunities for research funding but will also increase access to research facilities not just for faculty, but for our students as well. More information on these opportunities will be made available shortly to the university community.

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

David said that Doctor of Nurse Practice (DNP) proposal will be presented at the CCGS meeting next Friday. He added that the new approval process at HLC might add a significant amount of time to new proposals that we might want to advance. He said he will bring more back information about this and the process of completing the HLC notifications to the next meeting.

David said that the English Provisional (EP) admission category was introduced on a trial basis and we have talked about reviewing this policy. Now, we have also heard from the office of International Student and Faculty Services (ISFS) that they would also like this policy reviewed. He added that we would need to look at students who were admitted under this category who progressed to degree programs and if they were successful in those programs. Steve said that the Recruitment and Admissions Requirements committee might be the appropriate committee to

review this policy. It follows well along the lines of the English proficiency requirements that the committee has been working on currently. David said that a lot of data will be required for this purpose which will need to be reviewed for longitudinal tracking at the individual level and also to identify patterns, if any exist.

David said that the Graduate Chair handbook is being revised. He added that he is trying to replace text-heavy pages with flowcharts. He is hopeful that will help interpret the policy and procedures. He said that he is also working on a field guide, which will be a shorter document and easy to access for graduate chairs. He said that per the two questions he sent to all graduate chairs, he now has a list of 33 items that graduate chairs would like to know. The two questions he asked were: what would you like to know? And what do you know now, that you would have liked to know earlier? Brian asked if this information can be made available as FAQs. In response to a question from Steve about the information being accessible, David said that the handbook is accessible to all faculty- it requires the OU log-in information.

David said that graduate applications are still higher than what they were last year at this time. Currently, we are running at an increase of 7.5% from last year.

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

Katie said that she attended a meeting of the University Academic Advising Council earlier this week. She added that most of the information there pertained to undergraduate students. She added that the Registrar's office has opened the PeopleSoft module of classes that students want to take. This creates the rationale for demand for classes, and is helpful to departments to determine the iterations of offering these classes.

She added that we will invite the Registrar to the Graduate Student Orientation to provide not just this information, but all the tools that our available to graduate students through the PeopleSoft system.

Katie said that so far she has received inquiries from three different colleges about doctoral students who are defending their dissertations beyond the acceptable deadline for participation in the spring commencement, but would like to be hooded at the ceremony on April 29th. She noted that the request has to document extenuating circumstances, needs to come from the dissertation advisor and then should be approved by the academic department and college before being sent to Joe and herself. The deadline for submitting these requests is 04/22/2016 at 5 pm. In response to a question from Shawn, Katie explained that reasonable acceptable exceptions in the past have been for doctoral students in Psychology who have defended their dissertations and are in the last few weeks of the mandatory internship (which can end in late May or June). She said that another situation has been where the defense was delayed due to a committee member's illness. Katie clarified that students who are allowed to participate in the ceremony and be hooded do not receive their degree until all the requirements have been met.

Members discussed whether the 3.0 GPA requirement for degree conferral applies to certificates as well. It was noted that the 3.0 requirement should not be a cumulative requirement, but should be specific to the program, so if the student does not have a 3.0 GPA in the courses that comprise the certificate, then should they not receive the certificate? Joe and David said that CCGS has had a discussion of combining coursework for all programs and the possibility of academic forgiveness.

Ann said that the undergraduate DARS notes GPAs for majors and minors, so the system has the capability to record it. Shawn commented that graduate students in a given program can in some cases meet the program requirements via unique and widely variable combinations of courses, so they would probably need to be entered for each student. It was noted that the courses could be added to a student's record when the plan of study is approved. David added that as plans of study change, they will need to be updated on a student's record, and this would need to be done by the academic college. After the Q2S conversion, structured DARS for graduate students no longer existed. In Fall 2015, Jen, Katie, and David attended a meeting with the Registrar and her staff for creating a structured DARS using the CHSP template. Joe said that he will check with the Registrar for updates on this. Gaurav said that clarification regarding the language about the GPA requirements will be helpful. Katie asked if there was consensus about assigning a minimum GPA requirement for any kind of credential earned by a graduate student. Jen said that she would like to see it, since the overall performance should not mask the performance in one area. Katie said that it is not possible to earn a certificate if it is attached to a degree and if that degree is not earned. Chris said that in such cases, the degree is conferred first and the certificate conferral comes after that. Katie added that stand-alone certificates are unique to graduate students, they can earn those as non-degree students. Brian asked about the GPA requirement for an attached certificate. Katie said that for certificates that are being earned as a part of the graduate degree, the requirement is for a cumulative GPA. And, as long as the cumulative GPA is 3.0, it does not matter whether the student earned less than 3.0 GPA in the classes that comprise the certificate. Jody said that UCC and the Certificates task force should be involved in this discussion as well.

6. Curriculum Committee Report (Appendix)

Tim said that the document about professional doctorates has been revised and was circulated to all members earlier in the week. He said that members had raised a question about the academic residency component. He said that this was discussed last month, and for now it was decided to have the text parallel that of the on-campus programs. He said members also asked about some stylistic and language changes. Jen said that the current document has new language, a paragraph in the section on research doctorates. Jen read the text from the document. She said that historically, to be a GA, a student was required to be on campus at least for the CHSP. Brian asked if a student was assisting with an online class. Tim said that is why the wording notes, 'may be required' to be on campus. David said that instead of noting the hourly requirements, it might be better to refer to the catalog or the source document. Shawn asked about any state implications about doctoral students and if they had to be on campus working with an advisor to earn their degrees. Joe said, there are programs where students are doing research in a different location. Members noted that the language needs to be reviewed and clarified. Jen said she recommends that members read the document and bring their questions and concerns to the next meeting.

Jen asked members to send any feedback they have about the PDP for the Master's degree in Accounting. Tim said that there were no concerns noted for the program reviews for Environmental and Plant Biology, Interdisciplinary Molecular and Cellular Biology, OU-HCOM (the entire college), and the College of Business (the entire college). It was also noted that at this point in time, it is not feasible for the program review committee to monitor accessibility. Ani said that it is already difficult to get reviewers and there has not been much in terms of training. Jen

said that this would need expertise and finances to review these needs. Sonsoles added that there are other mechanisms at the university through which a student can ask for accommodations.

7. Recruitment and Admissions Requirements Committee Report

Gursel said that he met Dawn Bikowski yesterday and received some good information about the Cambridge test.

Gursel circulated a handout which included responses to the survey for why students chose Ohio University.

Gursel informed members that the committee had discussed Maureen Rogers' conflict of interest case and a few suggestions have been made to mitigate any conflict. The committee recommended that Dr. O'Malley not be an instructor of record for Maureen's course work, and if that it is not possible, then another instructor should evaluate the course work. Katie said that this is a non-degree student and she wants to pursue the TESOL program. She works for the program coordinator.

Members approved the committee's recommendations.

8. Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee Report

Jody informed members that today's packet contains the committee's recommendations for the award of the Named Fellowships. He reminded members that these are not endowed awards and that they are funded by the Graduate College. Steve asked if it was possible to get them endowed. Joe said that we do not have a dedicated advancement officer for the Graduate College, so it has not been a priority on anyone else's agenda. Jody said that this year the information for this fellowship was sent to all graduate chairs, members of graduate council, and in the graduate student newsletters to all graduate students this past November, December, and January.

The nominees for the awards and the titles of their projects are as follows:

John Cady Graduate Fellowship nominee: M. Renee Benham (English) (Beyond Nightingale: The Transformation of Nursing in Nineteenth-Century Literature)

Donald Clippinger Graduate Fellowship nominee: Kiran Prasai (Physics and Astronomy) (Gap engineering and simulation of advanced materials)

Claude Kantner Graduate Fellowship nominee: Mitchell D. Smith (History) (The Politics of Assent: Popular Support for American's Vietnam War, 1965-1973)

Anthony Trisolini Graduate Fellowship nominee: Rachel Bykowski (Division of Theater) (Voodoo Doll)

Graduate College Fellowship nominee: Nicholas Tomeo (Environmental & Plant Biology) (Extent and drivers of genotypic variation in mesophyll conductance)

1st Alternate: Maggie Hantak (Biological Sciences) (Color Polymorphism and ecological divergence in the Red-backed Salamander, *Plethodon cinereus*)

2nd Alternate: Phally Chroy (Interdisciplinary (Cosmopolitan Cambodia: Arts in the Cambodian Golden Age and Post-UNTAC)

Members voted to approve the committee's recommendations.

9. New Business

Steve said that he will send the graduate faculty status document to Beth Quitsland and Dave Thomas. Jen said that she does not think that the current document reflects all the edits that were made last year

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 pm.