

May 14, 2013 Meeting Minutes of the Graduate Council

Members present: P. Auter, M. Farmer-Kaiser, M. Feist, S. France, J. Lee, D. Linton, A. Loewy, P. Shepard IV, D. Wadsworth, and D. Breaux (non-voting member)

Members absent: L. Auverset, M. Ball, M. Burke, R. Cheek, D. Zhao

Guest: E. Kimball

1. Call to order by Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser at 2:15 p.m
2. Unanimous approval of the Graduate Council meeting minutes from April 9, 2013, pending correction of the spelling of *Michele Feist* in the “Faculty Review” paragraph
3. Announcements:
 - A. ENGL corrected to ENGR in April Curriculum Committee report
 - B. Review of applicants for graduate program candidacy
4. Old Business:

No old business

Agenda amended to allow Emily Kimball to speak about electronic submission of theses prior to discussion of Committee Reports. Currently, only dissertation writers are required to submit electronically; dissertation and thesis writers submit four bound copies. The Library proposes to reduce to one paper copy for archives, plus full text version through ProQuest. Under new proposal, all students will be asked to do Open Access publishing (currently this is optional). Questions raised by Graduate Coordinators: embargo; default to allow third-party retailers to sell dissertations (no longer offered); departments wishing to continue to receive bound copies. Concerns were raised by the Council regarding the meaning of “Open Access”; longevity of access to ProQuest in light of future budget cuts. Motion was made and seconded to endorse proposed changes; motion passed.

5. Committee reports:
 - A. Appeals: No report from sub-committee; Dean Breaux reported that we are starting to get requests for amnesty; requests will be handled by Megan Trahan.
 - B. Curriculum: The Council reviewed the report received from Dr. Jennifer Geer. Dr. Geer will be stepping down from the chairmanship of the Curriculum Committee effective August 2013.
 - C. Faculty Review: No report.

- D. Fellowships: report given by Dr. Andrea Loewy. Offers have been sent out; some offers have been declined, and offers are being sent to alternate candidates.
6. New Business:
- A. Election of a new chair: P. Sheppard was nominated and accepted nomination; S. France declined nomination. P. Sheppard was unanimously elected chair.
 - B. Three embargo requests: discussion ensued regarding the possibility of changing timing for embargo requests from the final stages of the graduate career to the stage at which the student puts themselves under the obligation to obtain embargo. Some concerns pertain to ensuring that students (and advisors) are aware of the repercussions of embargo for the students' academic careers, and with protecting the intellectual rights of our students. It was suggested that issues of intellectual property and embargo be covered in a workshop for students and graduate advisors. Further consideration of the issue of timing was tabled until Fall 2013. Motion made on all three requests; motions passed.
 - C. Graduate faculty application process: electronic applications to be implemented for fall 2013. Some paper applications have already been received. Electronic applications will be submitted electronically through the graduate school website.
 - D. Task force looking at makeup and election of Graduate Council was described; this task force will be convened in the fall.
 - E. Dean Breaux was thanked for his service as dean, and wished well in his new role.
7. Adjournment