

October 8, 2013 Meeting Minutes of the Graduate Council

Members Present: P. Auter, S. France, J. Laudun, A. Magidin, D. Linton, A. Loewy, P. Sheppard (chair), M. Teutsch, D. Zhao, M. Farmer-Kaiser (ex-officio member)

Guests: Hong-Yi Wu, Chee-Hung Henry Chu, Azmy Akleh

1. Call to order by P. Sheppard at 2:07 pm.
2. Unanimous approval of September 10, 2013 meeting minutes pending spelling correction of *John Laudun*.
3. Announcements:
 - A. Council members were provided with the official members list and charge of the University Task Force on Graduate Education Governance. Present members from the Task Force discussed the current status of the Task Force.
 - B. P. Sheppard announced that the list of Graduate Council standing committee members would be posted on the Graduate School website.
 - C. P. Sheppard announced that Graduate Council agendas and minutes would be posted on the Graduate School website. Motion made to anonymize the minutes where appropriate (in particular, by removing the names of individual students, faculty when graduate faculty applications are discussed, and Council members who make/second motions) on posted minutes. Motion seconded and passed.
4. Old Business:
 - A. Nicole Müller requested via email a change in wording of the Graduate Council's amendment to the proposed and passed changes to IRB guidelines. N. Müller proposed that *approved documentation* be changed to *approval documentation* as the IRB approval letter contains all relevant information for the Graduate School. Motion made to amend wording in IRB guidelines to read: "IRB chair notifies student, committee chair, and research office of approval, and provides a copy of the IRB approval letter to the Graduate School. The Graduate School will make the IRB approval letter part of the student's record." Motion seconded and passed.
 - B. Embargo requests were considered for two students from the Geology Master's program. Requests were considered independently and motions were made to accept each embargo request. Motions were seconded and both motions passed.
 - C. GRE waiver proposal for EDCI M.Ed. program was considered pending amendment of proposal wording. Motion made to amend wording for EDCI

M.Ed. GRE waiver request to read: “The GRE requirement for admissions will be waived for applicants to the Online Master’s Degree in Curriculum and Instruction who meet the adjusted admission standard of possessing an undergraduate (adjusted or cumulative) GPA of 3.2; applicants who receive the GRE waiver will be required to demonstrate their potential to be teacher leaders/scholars through additional supporting application materials.” Motion seconded and passed.

5. Committee reports:

- A. Appeals Committee: No report.
- B. Curriculum Committee: Hard copy of report prepared by Helen Hurst, not present. Council adjourned prior to presentation of report.
- C. Fellowships Committee: No report.
- D. Faculty Review Committee: No report.

6. New Business:

- A. CACS proposal for collaboration with Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications in China presented by Hong-Yi Wu, Chee-Hung Henry Chu, and Dean Azmy Akleh. Collaboration involves a 3+2 dual degree program where Chinese students would receive a bachelor’s degree from Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications and a Master’s degree from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. H. Wu, C. Chu, and A. Akleh discussed quality control, admissions standards, tuition rates, and general logistics for the program with the Graduate Council. Council members asked questions for clarification and proceeded to discuss the proposal. As new business, no action was taken by the Council.
- B. M. Farmer-Kaiser discussed proposed change to minimum thesis/dissertation hours that a student can enroll in. If approved, a minimum of 3 credit hours would be set for all 599, 699, and 999 courses. At present tuition rates, such a change would result in an increase of tuition (instate, out-of-state, and/or international) of \$93 for 3 credit hours (as opposed to the tuition for 1 credit hour). The concern is that by allowing students to enroll in 1 credit hour of 599, 699, 999, especially in their last semester, the University commits significant faculty and staff resources and suffers a significant revenue loss in state formula dollars. As new business, no action was taken by the Council.

7. Meeting adjourned.