

February 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes of the Graduate Council

Members Present: J. Laudun, A. Magidin, S. McInerny, A. Loewy, P. Sheppard (chair), M. Teutsch, D. Wadsworth, S. France, Y. Weng, M. Farmer-Kaiser (ex-officio member)

Guest: Samantha Giffin

1. Call to order by P. Sheppard at 2:12 pm.
2. Unanimous approval of December 10, 2013, January 13, 2014, and January 21, 2014 minutes.
3. Announcements:
 - A. The list of January degree candidates was presented.
 - B. P. Sheppard and M. Farmer-Kaiser discussed the status of the VP of Research search process and their own assessment of the three job candidate finalists. Council members who participated in the on-campus interviews (including S. France, A. Loewy, A. Magidin, and Y. Weng) also shared their thoughts regarding the candidates.
 - C. M. Farmer-Kaiser informed the Council that the Provost, Dr. Henderson, has indicated that the University will move forward soon with the search for Dean of the Graduate School.
4. Old Business:
 - A. Motion made to table the Criminal Justice request for waiver of letters of recommendation for UL Lafayette Criminal Justice graduates. Motion seconded and passed.
5. Standing Committee Reports:
 - A. Student Appeals Committee: Report prepared by Robert Viguerie, not present, submitted. The Student Appeals Committee considered 54 appeals; it approved 47 requests and denied 7. The report was accepted by the Graduate Council.
 - B. Curriculum Committee: Report prepared by Helen Hurst, not present, submitted. The report was accepted by the Graduate Council.
 - C. Fellowship Committee: No report.
 - D. Graduate Faculty Review Committee: No report.
6. New Business:

- A. The Graduate Council considered the Cognitive Science Request for Graduate Faculty Emergency Appointment for a faculty member no longer at the University. A motion was made to approve the request to allow the former UL Lafayette faculty member to continue to serve as one of the three required voting members of the UL Lafayette Graduate Faculty for Cognitive Science graduate student committees with the following limitations: that the faculty member be allowed to continue only on the committees of students with whom he is already working with as a committee member, that his continuation be limited to the duration of his original term of appointment to the UL Lafayette graduate faculty, and that his membership be limited to the capacity of co-chair or member. Motion clarified further to indicate that the exception to the policy was being considered only because the Cognitive Science program had been eliminated with the understanding that all students currently in the program would be allowed to finish. Additional consideration given to the fact that the faculty member possesses a disciplinary expertise not possessed by fellow Cognitive Science faculty, which his student require for completion of their dissertations. Motion seconded and passed.
- B. The Graduate Council considered two student appeals: one student appealed to be readmitted into the Graduate School after having received three Cs; the other student appealed to be able to take the Ph.D., major-field comprehensive examination for a fourth time. After thorough consideration, a motion was made to deny the request for readmission; motion seconded and passed. After thorough consideration, a motion was made to deny the request to take the comprehensive examination a fourth time; motion seconded and passed.