

University Graduate Council Minutes

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

1:00 – 2:55 p.m.

Sherrick 103

Council in Attendance:

Alan Dyer, *Chair* (Agriculture)
Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)
W. Randall Babbitt (Faculty Senate)
Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)
Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)

Anne Christensen (Business)
Arthur Bangert (Education)
Mary Miles (Health & Human Development)
Timothy LeCain (Letters)

Also in Attendance:

Amanda Brown (The Graduate School)

Lauren Cerretti (The Graduate School)

Absent:

John Borkowski, *Vice Chair* (Sciences)
Theodore Lipfert (Arts)

Melissa Ragain (Arts)

- **Meeting started at 1:05 p.m.**
- **December 3, 2014 minutes approved**
 - Chair Dyer called for approval, council member Miles motioned, council member Babbitt second
 - Unanimous approval
- **Announcements**
 - Welcome to Dr. Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Civil Engineering) – assigned to the Governance Committee
 - Alternate for the College of Engineering
 - PhD Enhancement Award (Dean Hoo)
 - Notice went out to departments
 - Want to give enough time to those departments that wish to apply
 - Financial Aid & Half-time Status update (Dean Hoo)
 - Repayment notice error – miscoded in BANNER to less than half-time at 6 credits
 - Student must be registered for 6 credits to be eligible for payment deferral
 - Graduate Student Union update (Dean Hoo)
 - Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) ratified with the Board of Regents on January 6, 2015, retroactively dated to January 2, 2015.
 - CBA available on the Provost and/or HR webpage
 - Outlines hours of appointment, stipend floor, and a supplement payment for health and living expenses.
 - Maximum hours per week is 19
 - Supplement is \$120/month
 - Retroactively calculated from October to December
 - Q: Are employers paying *only* \$120 a month, or \$120 in addition to what is already being paid, for health/living expenses?
 - A: for spring 2015, this amount is in addition to what was already promised

- Q: GAs working less than five months: Are employers required to pay \$120 a month for the full term, or only for the amount of time worked?
 - A: required to provide the supplement for the entire 5 months.
 - Section 6 of CBA: “Satisfactory progress” required for appointment
 - UGC passed “Review of Progress “ form, to be completed each Spring term starting in Spring of 2015.
 - New Course Review procedure (Dean Hoo)
 - Dean Hoo recommended to Chair Dyer that the Curriculum Committee review and decide if UGC should approve
 - Chair Dyer called for motion, council member Miles motioned, council member Christensen second
 - Unanimous approval to have the Curriculum Committee review the procedure
 - Curriculum Committee to present recommendations at next meeting
 - Discussion ensued regarding responsibilities and purpose of Curriculum Committee in regard to course requests
- **Old Business**
 - Graduate student representative for UGC (Feedback/Discussion)
 - Possible to include UGC membership as part of GA responsibilities? Assigned by union?
 - Best to alternate position from college to college each term
 - PhD, or Master’s continuing to PhD, would be optimal – full view of Graduate studies
 - Consensus: UGC wants a student member, but not sure how to ensure attendance
 - Chair Dyer called for motion for the Governance Committee to develop policy for a student member, council member Babbitt motioned, council member Miles second
 - Unanimous approval
 - Doctoral 12 credit requirement beyond Master’s degree policy (Discussion)
 - Last update: Council members Codd and Babbitt to make suggestion(s) to Policy Committee
 - Discussion regarding policy ensued again
 - Dean Hoo pointed to policy proposal from Oct 10, 2014 and called for a vote at next meeting
 - Exam-Degree Completion (Cerretti & Brown)
 - Added language “to be counted by term”, with provided example
 - Chair Dyer called for approval, council member Christensen motioned, council member Babbitt second
 - Unanimous pass
 - Effective immediately, for Spring 2015
 - Age of Courses (Cerretti & Brown)
 - Clarifying how The Graduate School is counting the age of a course
 - Chair Dyer called for approval, council member Babbitt motioned, council member Christensen second
 - Unanimous pass
 - Effective immediately, for Spring 2015
 - Minimum Grade on Program of Study (Cerretti & Brown)

- Departments should **not** allow “C-” or lower grades on a Program of Study, effectively making the minimum grade allowed a “C”
 - Some departments are already requiring this, other are pushing for it
 - Chair Dyer called for approval, council member Babbitt motioned, council member Christensen second
 - Unanimous pass
 - Effective for **new** students in catalog year 2016-2018
 - One-credit Extension Students & Commencement Participation (Brown)
 - Currently only a letter is required by the GS from student’s committee chair stating that requirements will be met before commencement
 - Roughly half of these students who have participated in commencement actually complete by the deadline
 - Is this an acceptable practice to measure who is eligible for participating in commencement?
 - Tabled for more discussion at the next meeting
- **New Business**
 - Master’s Credits toward Doctoral (Discussion)
 - Chair Dyer called for motion to rescind previously passed policy, Council member Babbitt motioned, council member Bangert second
 - Unanimous approval
 - Chair Dyer tasked the Office of Degree Programs & Certificates with rewriting the policy
 - Concern is that multiple policies will be changed/effectuated with this revision
 - Notes to revise: 21 credits
 - Clarify distinction between “considered” and “transferred” credits
 - Comprehensive Exam/Defense Report (Dean Hoo)
 - Add a “Pass with Provisions” option to the form (issue with passing a student, cannot go back later and fail the student)
 - Thesis/Doctoral Credits on Programs (Dean Hoo)
 - 590/690 credits on Program of Study should be lettered graded, as opposed to Pass/Fail
 - Role of Graduate Representative (Dean Hoo)
 - UGC to consider role
 - Getting Graduate Representatives is difficult – should minimize the amount of responsibilities to ensure appointments
- **Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.**