

Graduate Council
GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
Friday, October 25, 2019 • 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
2711 MHRA

Members Present: Glenn Hudak, Aaron Beveridge, Anthony Cuda, Sarah Daynes, Ben Dyson, Vidya Gargeya, Nancy Hoffart, Derek Jones, Jr., Dennis LaJeunesse, Zhi-Jun Liu, Paul Steimle, Ken White, Joseph Wolf

I. Approval of Minutes from September 27, 2019

Motion to Approve September 27, 2019 minutes (Gargeya, Steimle) Minutes Approved.

II. Report of the Chair – Glenn Hudak

Chair advised a Graduate Faculty meeting will take place Monday, October 28 from 3:00- 4:30. Faculty will review and discuss the Graduate Policy Handbook.

III. Report of the Vice Provost for Graduate Education – Kelly Burke

No Report.

IV. Report of the Graduate Curriculum Committee – Nancy Hoffart

Nancy advised GCC workload has been substantial and thanked GCC members for their work. The committee has scheduled an additional meeting to ensure review of all submissions. The committee would welcome the opportunity to review 2021-2022 proposals this spring. Departments are encouraged to consider this option. Discussion concerning submission deadlines. The Office of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Program Planning will provide additional training sessions for curriculum roles.

The GCC will use the spring semester to identify areas in need of additional training. *GCC Information Items (from October 18, 2019 and October 23, 2019 meetings) available in Box.*

V. Report of the Policies and Procedures Committee – Ben Dyson

Ben advised overall, the feedback from faculty has been positive regarding the Policy Handbook. There were a few concerns, most addressed by Kelly and Greg. One concern is the requirement of an annual written assessment of the student's progress toward degree, specifically what for the written feedback would take.

Greg advised it is important for the student to know they are making good progress of if there are any issues. Discussion followed; a concern is the submission of this report to the Graduate School. A suggestion for alternative wording is 'retain the report in the DGS office'. There is variation among departments when it comes to the way

progress is monitored. It is not the intent of the Graduate School to become involved in the daily workings of the departments. The concern for the Graduate School is that there is no advance notice until a student is dismissed. The goal is to help students succeed; it is better for the Graduate School to know earlier if a student is not making progress toward degree.

Discussion continued; does changing the system address the lack of accountability? What will the Graduate School do with this information?

A second concern raised was who will enter student mentor information into Banner. The third question, must there be a defense meeting to approve the dissertation proposal? There is no meeting requirement.

Discussion concerning line 1770, definition of public defense. This should include digital communication.

Ben asked everyone to review the policy document prior to the October 28 Graduate Faculty meeting and asked Council members to attend and be prepared to respond to concerns/questions. It is important that faculty understand this is a faculty driven process.

VI. Report of the Appeals Committee – Anthony Cuda

Anthony reported there is a lawsuit underway that pertains to a Student Affairs subcommittee appeals hearing and arises directly from policy.

VII. New Business/Other

VIII. Adjournment – 11:52 am