



**GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 5, 2012, 1:21 – 2:55 P.M.  
SAGE HALL 2210**

**PRESENT:** David Bruno, Eric Brunsell, Sharon Chappy, Denise Clark, Susan Cramer, Ashay Desai, Jayanthi Ganapathy, Kathy Hagens, Judy Hankes, Doreen Higgins, Phan Hong, Jim Koch, Marci Nondorf, Alan Saginak, Joan Simmons, Bob Stelzer, Kim Udlis, Bill Wresch, Greg Wypiszynski

**INVITED GUEST:** Steve Dunn, Carleen Vande Zande

**EXCUSED:** Eric Beck, Craig Maher, Kristi Pennerberg, Christine Roth, Jen Szydlik, Fred Yeo

The meeting was called to order at 1:21 p.m. by Jim Koch.

**APPROVAL ITEMS**

- The minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of March 1, 2012 were approved as written.
- Graduate Studies Travel Fund Bylaws Change – Greg Wypiszynski proposed a change to the bylaws to reflect that GSTF Awards are determined by the Chair of the committee rather than the Director of Graduate Studies. Motion/Second: Joan Simmons/Susan Cramer. All in favor, motion passed.
- CON GSIP Proposal - Alan Saginak shared that the GSIP Committee unanimously approved to fund a CON proposal (\$300 for marketing materials). Motion/Second to approve the GSIP recommendation: Bill Wresch/Eric Brunsell. All in favor, motion passed.
- The MA-English program submitted two Form Cs.
  - Kim Udlis stated that the CAC supported and recommended approval for the change in admission requirements to require a critical writing sample. Motion/Second: Kim Udlis/Susan Cramer. All in favor, motion passed.
  - A Form C for a new Linguistics Certificate raised some concern about assessment. The CAC will contact the English Department to discuss revisions before the Graduate Council will approve this program.
- MS-Sustainable Management (COB) – Jim Koch opened discussion about a new graduate program that had been presented to the Council on short notice (less than two days to review the entire program). Due to time constraints, the CAC was unable to review the program to offer a recommendation to the Council.

Carleen Vande Zande and Steve Dunn joined the meeting today to answer questions from Council members. After much discussion, the Graduate Council did not approve the new

program. Motion/Second: Denise Clark/Susan Cramer. Motion denied – 0-10-6.

What follows are the comments from Graduate Council members during the discussion of the proposal:

- Pros:
  - This is a fast-growing program and there is need in the state of Wisconsin.
  - It is an innovative, revenue-generating, online program for working adults. This program will provide the job skills necessary for where companies are going.
  - Considered by the Council to be an incredible opportunity and a positive addition to the University's graduate programs.
  - We do not have a graduate program in Environmental Studies, yet, and the COB is extremely supportive of a program that focuses on corporate ethics. While the MBA program touches on ethics, it cannot reach the depth that a new MS-Sustainable Management degree would.
  - Stepping stone for undergrads in many disciplines to consider graduate education at UW Oshkosh and within the UW-System.
  - It does not conflict with the College of Business' accreditation standards.
  - There is an oversight committee among all of the Universities involved, and each university will have an academic program manager (including UW-Extension).
  - UW Oshkosh's Administrative Services has approved the financial model.
  - Collaborative - UW-System prefers more collaboration among the universities due to system-wide budget cuts. It is not likely that UW Oshkosh would receive system support to offer this program on our own. Also, the collaboration will draw-in more students throughout the state.
  
- Cons
  - Due to time restraints, the COB Curriculum Committee was only able to approve the new program by a 1-0-5 vote. Graduate Council members showed significant concern that the College housing the program approved it by 1 vote and 5 others abstained. Not all Council members are comfortable approving something that was barely approved by the program's College.
  - This program will be housed in the COB, but most COB faculty haven't heard of this new program, yet nor has the rest of the university community – including Graduate Council members.
  - The COB was given 3-4 days to review the entire program, but were also finalizing a new eMBA program at the time they received it. The COB has been working on the eMBA for years, and felt they needed to finalize the eMBA before reviewing an entire new program. Also, the eMBA has the potential to be a major revenue-generating program. For these reasons, some faculty showed concern that the COB may prioritize the eMBA over the MS-Sustainable Management.
  - COB shared that they have concern of where students should go for assistance and support services. Do they contact the COB, Graduate Studies Office, another campus?

- Collaborative programs require a lot of work, energy and communication. The program doesn't appear to identify how much work likely will be required to administer this program. Are all of the universities prepared?
- The Graduate Studies Office will be responsible for setting up all of the infrastructure (i.e. admissions processing, TitanWeb, financial aid, candidacies, graduations, etc.) and will also be responsible for answering a substantial number of questions from students. However, the amount of work the GSO will be required to do before the program can even begin, as well as after the program starts, was not addressed in the proposal. The Registrar's Office was mentioned; however, graduate admissions processing alone is far different/more time-consuming than undergraduate admissions, for example.
- This program is revenue generating. However, the financial breakdown of what revenue is provided to each university is unclear. Also, will the GSO, who will do a substantial amount of administrative work for this program, receive any operational support?
- Oshkosh is designated as responsible for all of the capstone projects, but those projects are more labor intensive than other courses. This may put Oshkosh in a bind for resources – will Oshkosh receive more compensation to support students completing their capstone?
- The proposal was written for an audience other than higher education – it does not represent many of the academic perspectives important to graduate faculty. There are several promises throughout the proposal that cannot be kept.
- The Council showed concern that the proposal wasn't read thoroughly. There was an expressed need to extend more courtesy, professionalism, and integrity to those reviewing the graduate program before it can be approved on the UW Oshkosh campus. Council members felt that more attention should be given to a new program, especially one that will be offered at the graduate level.
- Instead of attempting to meet the June BOR meeting, the Council felt the proposal needed further review.

Jim Koch and Greg Wypiszynski will compile all of the Graduate Council's concerns and submit them to the College of Business for revision.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m. The next Graduate Council meeting is on May 3, 2012 from 1:20 – 2:50 in Sage Hall 2210.

Marci Nondorf, Recorder

Copies to:  
 Graduate Council  
 Provost Lane Earns  
 Deans  
 Robby Graupner, OSA  
 Office of Graduate Studies Staff