

GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2017, 1:22-2:34 P.M.
Sage Hall 2210

Present: John Beam, Eric Brunsell, Kim Calvert, Quin Chrobak, Josh Garrison, Karen Gibson, Tonya Hameister, Marci Hoffman Phan Hong, Steph Kitzerow, Erik Krohn, Samantha Larson, Colin Long, Deb Matulle, Brandon Miller, Rob Sipes, Bob Stelzer, Nathan Stuart, Renae Swanson, Cathy Toll, Mary Weeden, Judy Westphal, and Greg Wypiszynski

Excused: Jamie Ceman, Steve Dunn, Dale Feinauer, Anna Filipova, Megan Fritz, Fredi Giesler, Brent MacWilliams, Ann Mickelson, Bonnie Nickasch, and Christine Roth

The meeting was called to order at 1:22 p.m. by Phan Hong, who welcomed Graduate Council members. Everyone introduced themselves.

- A. Motion to approve the consent reports/Second: John Beam/Eric Brunsell. Approved (11-0-3).
- B. Motion to approve the May 4, 2017 minutes as written/Second: John Beam/Mary Weeden. Approved (10-0-4).
- C. Updates from Summer 2017
 1. Graduate Studies Office Staffing: Lori Halstead accepted a new position in the College of Business, and her position remains vacant. Greg Wypiszynski will follow the new personnel process to fill the role. There are three full-time staff in Graduate Studies (Greg Wypiszynski, Marci Hoffman, and Connie Schuster), and two part-time students.
 2. Graduate Dean Update: Three candidates were brought to campus for interviews, and Provost Koker offered the position to one. That candidate declined. The Provost would like to fail the search, and hire an internal Interim Dean for spring 2018 (with potential to extend through summer 2018) while we launch a new Dean search. The Interim Dean's release time will be determined by the position's expectations, and Phan Hong will meet with the Provost to clarify this and the compensation.

Provost Koker requested recommendations and advice from the Graduate Council regarding the Interim Dean's charges. Charges the Provost would like of the Dean are to (1) develop advanced training for CAPP instructors and (2) network with technology companies outside of the university. Discussion ensued. The Graduate Council recommends that the Interim Dean's responsibility include the following

 - a. Lead the Graduate Faculty through a new Graduate Strategic Plan
 - b. Attend all senior administrative meetings, including but not limited to, Leadership Council, Chancellor's Staff, and Provost's Staff. Particularly, the Graduate Dean should attend personnel meetings to advocate for Graduate Faculty. The criteria to teach at the graduate-level requires higher credentials. Graduate programs are growing, but graduate faculty numbers are declining.
 - c. Marketing and public relations for graduate programs
 - d. Partner with outside agencies and the community with the purpose of increasing graduate assistantship and travel opportunities for students
- D. Subcommittee Memberships: The following subcommittee memberships and Chairs were determined. Due to budget cuts, both the Graduate Studies Initiatives Program and the Graduate Studies Travel Fund have been discontinued.

Executive Committee, Chair: Phan Hong

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| COB | Nathan Stuart | College of Business |
| COEHS | Josh Garrison | College of Education & Human Services |
| COLS | Bob Stelzer | Biology (MS) |
| CON | Brent MacWilliams | Nursing (MSN. DNP) |
| Graduate Studies | Greg Wypiszynski | Office of Graduate Studies |
| Student | Megan Fritz | Nursing (DNP) |

Curriculum Approval Committee, Chair: Bonnie Nickasch

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| COB | Nathan Stuart | College of Business |
| COEHS | Eric Brunsell | Teaching & Learning (MSE) |
| COLS | John Beam | Mathematics Education (MS) |
| CON | Bonnie Nickasch | College of Nursing |
| Student | Steph Kitzerow | Social Work (MSW) |

Distinguished Research Award Review Committee, Chair: Renae Swanson

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| COB | Steve Dunn | College of Business |
| COEHS | Renae Swanson | Professional Counseling (MSE) |
| COLS | Quin Chrobak | Psychology (MS) |
| CON | Brent MacWilliams | College of Nursing |

Graduate Council Representative to the Academic Policies Committee: Bonnie Nickasch

Graduate Studies Representative to the Faculty Development Board: Cathy Toll

Graduate Studies Representative to the Student Research and Creative Activities Board: Ann Mickelson

- E. Guest: Interim Dean Westphal, College of Nursing. The College of Nursing would like to respond to their competitors who accept credits towards both an undergraduate and graduate degree. The Graduate Council shared that as long as the College of Nursing's accrediting body approves, there are ways to address this via Form C. Discussion ensued. COEHS and Social Work provided explanations for how they address similar situations.
- F. Graduate Credit Plateau: Mary Weeden expressed concerns over the policy that only requires graduate students to pay for only up to 9 credits per semester; tuition for any credits above nine in a single semester is waived. Due to the loss of necessary faculty and adjuncts, and the university's restrictions on credits, Social Work is nearing violation of their accreditation standards. Deb Matulle provided the background of the plateau policy, and explained it is a UW System policy, and not specific to UW Oshkosh. To change this policy, a resolution to the Board of Regents would need to be approved. Discussion ensued, and there was widespread agreement in the Graduate Council that it was fiscally irresponsible to allow credits to simply be waived.
1. Chancellor Leavitt and the VCs are already discussing this issue at the undergraduate-level. The Graduate Council needs to request that graduate credits be included in this discussion. Greg Wypiszynski will speak with Provost Koker, and request that the Provost present this issue to Leadership Council.
 2. Depending on the tuition structure for graduate programs, the added funding for per credit tuition may go to the university's GPR accounts and not directly to the programs. There may be other considerations specific to MSW that should be reviewed, as well.
- G. Graduate STEP: Greg Wypiszynski received eight proposals for the amount of \$40,000; \$15,000 over budget. After adjusting the hourly rates and weeks, a total of \$30,000 in requests are being considered. The deadline is Monday, September 18, and several faculty members stated they were still planning to submit a proposal.

- H. Reminder that the Graduate Studies Travel Fund was cancelled this year due to budget cuts.
- I. USP Open House is planned for February 2018.
- J. There is a new hiring process, Increased Personnel Action Review (IPAR), that was created to strategically evaluate positions before hiring can begin.
- K. A new policy process and a new Policy on Policies are underway. More information to come.

Motion to adjourn at 2:34 P.M. Marci Hoffman, Recorder.

Copies to: Graduate Council, Provost John Koker, Deans, OSA President, Office of Graduate Studies Staff