GRADUATE COUNCIL
Faculty Senate
MINUTES
Thursday, April 15, 2021, 2:30 PM
Zoom Meeting

PRESENT:  Yuliang Liu, Chair, Kay Gaehle, Michael Shaw, Jennifer Zuercher, Heather Johnson, Michael Hair, Walter Siganga, Barbara McCracken, Soondo Kweon, Liz Cali, Brigid Aslin, Jerry Weinberg, Scott Belobrajdic, Mary Weishaar, Therese Dickman, Jill Smucker, Susan Morgan, Kim Lizotte, Gireesh Gupchup

ABSENT:  Lindsy Perry, Christienne Hinz

EXCUSED:  Jayme Swanke

The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m. by Yuliang Liu, Chair.

I. System Strategic Planning, Faculty Advisory Committee
   • Gireesh Gupchup attended the meeting to discuss the formation of strategic planning goals groups and present the Faculty Advisory Committee’s progress. A strategic plan is being developed for the SIU system and the committee is working towards finding the common why and what the separate systems can do together to make the Universities better. President Mahony set up eight working groups that developed recommendations for the strategic plan. The system has received that feedback and goal committees have been developed for each of these goals to operationalize what the goals mean and what objectives need to be met to meet those goals. The plan is to have these objectives by June 15th, 2021. The goals and objectives will be reviewed by the strategic planning committee and then approved by President Mahony to go into effect for a five-year period.

II. Announcements
   a. Course Review Committee (CRC) Report – On Sharepoint
   b. Graduate Committee on Assessment (GCOA) Report – On Sharepoint
   c. Enrollment Management Report
      • Scott Belobrajdic emailed out a synopsis prior to the meeting showing that enrollment has been growing.
   d. Student Affairs Announcements
      • None.
   e. International Affairs Announcements
      • None.
   f. Graduate School Announcements
      • Kevin Dial, the Graduate School’s Director of Award Management has decided to resign. The GS hopes to have the posting for this position up shortly.
      • The Research and Equipment Tools Program received 24 applications that were all funded for upwards of $392,000.
• Dr. Susanne DiSalvo from the biology department has been awarded an NSF CAREER Award, which is only the second CAREER award in the University’s history.


• Walter Siganga announced that the Dean’s evaluation process is ongoing, and the committee is in the process of finishing the report.
• Yuliang Liu announced that the Faculty Senate has discussed reorganization of the Councils, names and responsibilities will be changed. Dean Weinberg recommends that the Graduate Council does not need to make changes.

III. Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2021

• The minutes were approved with no opposition.

IV. Public Comments

• None.

V. Report of the Programs Committee

a) Form 92B: Teaching and Learning
   - Literacy Education (Master of Science in Education)
   - Specialist (Post-Master’s Certificate)
     • Due to low enrollment, the department and school has decided to terminate these programs but retain the Reading Teacher Endorsement. Students will still be able to take 6 courses to receive the Endorsement or go into the Master’s program and use those courses towards their Master’s. The programs the department is requesting terminate are not in high demand.

b) Form 91A: Social Work
• The department would like to change the programs classification by converting their Professional Development Sequence into a Post-Master’s Certificate. The PDS limits financial aid opportunities due to the students being listed as unclassified graduate students. The change to the Post-Master’s Certificate classification would increase financial aid opportunities, potentially attract more students to the program.

c) Kinesiology – Combined Accelerated B.S. in Exercise Science and M.S. in Exercise Physiology
• The department would like to create an accelerated program where undergraduate students could enroll in graduate level courses and receive dual credit. The accelerated program would allow students to save time and money and increase recruitment potential. The department would also like to change the course number for KIN 496 to KIN 511 to ensure that the programs courses are all 500-level courses or higher.

d) Form 91A: Integrative Studies, Capstone Changes
• Integrative Studies would like to decrease the maximum credit hours for INTG 593 (Final Research Paper) and INTG 599 (Thesis Research) from 6 to 5. The reduced-credit combined with the 1-credit INTG 500 (Proposal Development) would form a 6-hour Capstone requirement that is consistent with most other graduate programs.
e) Form 91A – Nursing
   - Nurse Educator (Master of Science)
   - Health Care & Nursing Administration (Master of Science)
     • The department would like to eliminate NURS 500 (Theoretical Foundations of Nursing) and make NURS 600 (Theory Guided Practice) the core theory course for the graduate program. The assignments and textbook are the same and the courses objectives are very similar, causing consolidation to be smooth and eliminating redundancy.

f) Healthcare Informatics – Abbreviated Review
   • The review team highlighted five strengths of the program, including the rigorous curriculum, faculty & student satisfaction, and leadership. The review committee had three recommendations; 1) balance between academic advising, program rigor, and personal growth; 2) information consistency in the program’s website and graduate catalog; 3) communication and collaboration between faculty and students. The second recommendation has already been resolved. The program has been recognized nationally as one of the Top 5 Healthcare Informatics online programs in the nation. The Programs Committee sent a memorandum to the department recommending that the director have a back-up/more support as they are currently driving everything for the program. The committee voted that the program was sustainable at present level and in good standing.

   ➢ Michael Hair brought the above forward for Graduate Council approval. Heather Johnson motioned to approve items a-f; Brigid Aslin seconded. The items were approved with no opposition.

VI. Report of the Educational and Research Policies (ERP) Committee

a) GR2021-16 – Review of Compensation Charged to Sponsored Projects – 1M11
   • Regular review of policy. Input was received from ORP Post-Award. One minor change was made for clarity.

b) GR2021-17 – Policy Governing Sponsored Projects – 1M2
   • Regular review of policy. Changes were made with feedback received from the Office of Technology Transfer and Legal Counsel.

c) GR2021-18 – Graduate Degree Culminating Projects – 1L8
   • The policy was updated due to the new process in place for what happens when graduate students complete their degree. The policy has been updated to reflect the new process and reviewed by Registrar.

   ➢ Barb McCracken brought the above forward for Graduate Council approval. Mike Shaw motioned to approve items a-c; Kay Gaehle seconded. The items were approved with no opposition.

d) RPAB Nominee
   • Annie Imboden is running unopposed to represent the School of Nursing on RPAB. The candidate was approved by ERP and Graduate Council voted on the new RPAB committee member.

   ➢ Mike Shaw motioned to approve the RPAB nominee, Walter Siganga seconded. The RPAB nominee was approved with no opposition.
VII. UPBC Operating Papers

- Updates were shared for informational purposes via SharePoint. The operating papers were corrected to reflect that a member is appointed to UPBC by the Graduate Council, as previously they stated that the Chair serves on UPBC.

VIII. Programs Committee Chair Elect

- Michael Hair agreed to continue to serve as Chair of Programs Committee for FY22.

IX. ERP Chair Elect

- Prior to the meeting, Jen Zuercher stated she was willing to serve as Chair of ERP for FY22.

X. GCOA Chair Elect

- Shelly Goebel-Parker is the Chair Elect for GCOA for FY22.
  - Mike Shaw motioned to approve the PC, ERP, and GCOA FY22 Chair Elects, Barb McCracken seconded. The FY22 Chair Elects were approved with no opposition.

XI. Continuing Business

- None.

XII. New Business

- None.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mike Shaw motioned to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.