GRADUATE COUNCIL  
Faculty Senate  
MINUTES  
Thursday, April 20, 2023, 2:30 PM  
Lovejoy Library Conference Room

PRESENT:  Michael Shaw (Chair), Wai Cheah, Michael Hair, Soondo Kweon, Ethan Boulanger, Jerry Weinberg, Therese Dickman, Susan Morgan, Jennifer Zuercher, Jill Smucker, Cinnamon VanPutte, Scott Belobrajdic

ABSENT:  Bhargav Patel, Shaker Nairat, Christienne Hinz, Miriam Roccia

EXCUSED:  Heather Johnson, David Cluphf, Bernadette Sobczak, Jayme Swanke

GUESTS:  None

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

I.  Announcements
   a.  Course Review Committee (CRC) Report – On Sharepoint
   b.  Graduate Committee on Assessment (CGOA) Report – On Sharepoint
   c.  Enrollment Management Report
      •  Scott Belobrajdic gave an overview of Enrollment Management updates to the committee. The continuing undergraduate percentage and total credit hour enrollment are up. Graduate enrollment is even with last year. It is projected that around 200 more students will finish their graduate degree in spring 23. He will be meeting with deans soon to discuss opportunities for enrollment and retention. He passed along a reminder from Jim Monahan that the priority deadline for international students wanting to admit into a STEM graduate program had past. The application fee for current undergraduates into a graduate program is waived until 5/1.

      •  The committee members discussed the process for undergraduate students that are admitted into a graduate program being able to enroll in graduate courses. Scott explained that the delay in the student’s undergraduate degree may hinder them from enrolling but there is only so much capacity to award degrees in a short amount of time.

   d.  Student Affairs Announcements
      •  None

   e.  International Affairs Announcements
      •  None

   f.  Graduate School Announcements
Jerry Weinberg let everyone know that IBHE had approved the MS in Forensic Science degree program and that the degree can be offered as of fall 2023. He also let the committee know about an update to the policy on pregnancy and parenting that includes graduate assistants. Lastly, the emeriti faculty association had awarded 4 grants that were awarded at a reception on April 20th at 3 PM.

Jill Smucker gave the committee an overview of a writing initiative that was in progress. The Graduate School is overseeing the creation of online modules to support graduate student writing enhancements. The applications for those interested in creating modules had just closed. The selection process is underway and work is expected to begin in May.

g. Other Announcements
   • Michael Shaw let the committee know about news that had been shared recently at a textbook committee meeting. Textbook Services will be moving soon after the books for fall 23 are checked out. Also, Textbook Services may be making a deal with Cengage that could result in unlimited access to all Cengage materials.
   • A committee member asked if the University is working on any open access course material initiatives and Michael answered yes. The Provost’s office is looking at proposals from faculty to develop their own course materials. It is possible that the department could receive extra pay for the materials they develop. More information about this program can be found here.
   • Michael gave an update on the progress of Dean Weinberg’s evaluation. The surveys that had been distributed closed earlier that week and will be compiled soon.

II. Approval of Minutes of March 16, 2023
   • The minutes were approved with no changes.

III. Public Comments
   • None

IV. Report of the Educational and Research Policies (ERP) Committee
   • GR2223-13: Participation of Emeritus Faculty in Graduate Education and Research
   • GR2223-14: Policy 1M1 - Overload Compensation

Jennifer Zuercher gave the committee an overview of the policies ERP had decided on. Both policies had received minor changes and clarifications and had been approved.

The committee accepted the ERP Committee report with no changes or opposition.

V. Report of the Programs Committee
   • Full Program Review: Integrative Studies

Michael Hair gave the committee a summary of the Programs Committee report. The committee had done the first full review of Integrative Studies and had voted that the program is sustainable at the present level and in good standing.
The committee accepted the Programs Committee report with no changes or opposition.

VI. **Continuing Business**
    - None

VII. **New Business**
    - Vote on R&D and RPAB Candidates

Michael gave the committee a summary of the process for voting on the candidates for the R&D and RPAB committees. The committee members used a Qualtrics survey in the meeting to accept all the candidates and decide which CAS candidate would serve on the RPAB committee. The majority of the committee voted for Carolina Rocha so she was accepted for that position.

    - Summary of Accepted Volunteers

**R&D**

- Life Sciences and Biomedical
  - Brianne Guilford, Applied Health (SEHHB)
- Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Business, and Education
  - Bryan Smith, Applied Health (SEHHB)
- Physical Sciences and Engineering
  - Nathaniel Adegboyega, Environmental Sciences (CAS)

**RPAB**

- CAS
  - Carolina Rocha, Foreign Languages and Literature
- SON
  - Annie Imboden

- Vote on ERP and Programs Committee Chairs

Michael Shaw let the committee know that Cinnamon VanPutte was willing to accept the nomination for chair of ERP for 2023-2024 and that David Cluphf was willing to accept the nomination for chair of Programs Committee. Wai Cheah motioned to accept the nominations and Soondo Kweon seconded the motion. The committee accepted the nominations with no changes or opposition. Cinnamon VanPutte abstained from the vote.

Michael Shaw reminded the committee that Michael Hair will be the Graduate Council chair for next year and that the committee will be looking for a chair-elect in the first meeting.

VIII. **Adjournment**
    - The meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.