GRADUATE COUNCIL
Faculty Senate
MINUTES
Thursday, December 15, 2022, 2:30 PM
Lovejoy Library 3rd Floor Conference Room

PRESENT: Michael Shaw (Chair), Wai Cheah, Heather Johnson, Michael Hair, Soondo Kweon, Jennifer Zuercher, Bernadette Sobczak, Bhargav Patel, Cinnamon VanPutte, Jayme Swanke, David Cluphf, Ethan Boulanger, Jerry Weinberg, Therese Dickman, Susan Morgan, Jill Smucker, Scott Belobrajdic, Jim Monahan

ABSENT: Jeffrey Waple, Allison Thomason

EXCUSED: Olufunke Mercy Ayegbidun, Mary Weishaar

GUESTS:

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 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 reported better than expected bounce back from drops from non-payment over the last weekend, which primarily impacts undergraduates. He mentioned initiatives at the undergraduate level to reengage students who stopped out and to focus on freshman retention.
      • Heather Johnson asked about reporting out for non-payment and if departments are notified due to class cancellation reasons. Scott responded that the process is managed by the Registrar’s Office and that the process is multi-layered, but no rash movements on class cancellations are made at the time of non-payment cancellations.
      • Bernadette Sobczak commented on what appears to be a critical shortage for undergraduate advising. Scott replied that the Provost has been working with Geoff Edwards in Enrollment Management to redistribute caseloads due to shortages in specific areas and that there are challenges in hiring new advisors.
   d. Student Affairs Announcements
      • None.
   e. International Affairs Announcements
      • None.
   f. Graduate School Announcements
      • Jerry Weinberg announced:
         i. The new concurrent degree with the MPA degree at SIUE and the JD from SIU School of Law has recently been approved.
ii. There are currently three open positions in the Graduate School. The Pre-Award Specialist interviews and interviews for the Grant Award Negotiations Administrator (Tammy Smart’s position) have been completed. The Compliance Specialist position has been reposted.

iii. GA minimum stipend rates will be raised to be equal to Illinois minimum wage, effective January 1, 2023.

iv. The Graduate School staff recently held a food drive for the Cougar Cupboard and a collection for kids' winter gear to be donated to SIUE Head Start.

- Jill Smucker announced that the Graduate School sent out a survey to all graduate faculty earlier this month asking for feedback on the writing and research challenges that graduate students face. The Graduate School is assessing the need for campus-level interventions in this area. Submissions are encouraged to help guide these efforts.

g. Other Announcements
- None.

II. Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2022
- The minutes were approved with no changes.

III. Public Comments
- None.

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

a) GR2223-08: Graduation Requirements 1F1
- Regular review of policy and passed with minimal discussion.

- Jen Zuercher brought the above forward for Graduate Council approval. The items were approved with no opposition.

V. Report of the Programs Committee

a) Interim Program Review: Media Studies
- Interim review report accepted with minimal discussion.

b) Interim Program Review: Public Administration
- Interim review report accepted with minimal discussion.

c) Management Information Systems 91A: Create Business Analytics PBC
- Proposal passed with minimal discussion.

d) Mass Communications 91A: Revise admission requirements for Digital Media Literacy PBC
- Proposal passed with minimal discussion.

e) Industrial Engineering 91A: Add 0 credit seminar course to MS requirements
- Proposal passed with some discussion regarding the course being offered at 0 credit hours.
- Heather Johnson brought the interim program reviews forward for Graduate Council approval. The items were approved with no opposition.

VI. Continuing Business
- Master’s Degree in Forensic Science 92A
  - The letter that was requested from Provost Cobb was received earlier today. Michael Shaw provided a summary of the letter highlights, including that the Provost’s Office is committing to support the personnel and resource needs for the program. Heather Johnson responded that the letter covered the most important concerns that were identified by Programs Committee during the proposal review.
  - Heather Johnson motioned to accept the 92A proposal, Wai Cheah seconded. Some discussion followed regarding the state appropriated funds and their likelihood of continuance to support the needs of the program. The motion passed with no opposition.

VII. New Business
- None.

VIII. Adjournment
- Wai Cheah motioned to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.