Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2021

M. Lewis, M. Cunningham, J. Clarke, J. O'Brien-Brown, M. Miller, A. Chaffee, D. Blake, A. Reusch, I. Kwaske (guest), B. Mohan, B. Koplitz, L. Dornier, G. Morris, L. Lukkarila, K. Tsubaki, K. Haugeberg, H. Francis (guest), S. Hansen (guest), M. Canuto, A. Childress, F. Wietfeldt, T. Fee, D. Khismatullin

1. Meeting called at 8:30
2. Approval of October Minutes, motioned by A. Chaffee, seconded by M. Canuto, all in favor.
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Fall 2021
   a. December 8
   b. January 12
   c. Undecided whether meetings will be in person or virtual in the spring
4. Announcements
   a. Masks in classrooms – faculty members can require masks in their classes, just make sure students know in advance (similar to policies about using laptops in class, etc). Email Academic Affairs with any questions about this policy.
   b. Three Minute Thesis competition – for PhD students in their final one or two years. Tues, Nov. 16, 3 PM. Kendall-Cram Lecture Hall, LBC. Contact Briana Mohan at bmohan@tulane.edu for more details. Ten participants from BMS, SSE, SLA, and SPHTM. Open to the whole community. Virtual option is being reviewed and once we have more information, we will send that out.
   c. Shifting the Paradigm: By the Numbers – Tues. Nov. 16 7 pm. Title IX and the Division of Student Affairs present part one of Shifting the Paradigm 2021: By the Numbers to take a deeper look at sexual misconduct data. Please register at https://bit.ly/302K09A to receive the Zoom link.
   d. Information about the two climate surveys – sexual violence and EDI. If graduate students want better policies and better data, more students need to respond
5. PhD Reviews
   a. Scheduled for 2021-22
   b. Departments being reviewed have submitted studies
   c. We're working on getting a graduate dean to chair the reviews, hope to have that information out by the winter break so that we can establish the schedule for the review
6. Biomedical Sciences Stackable Certificates
   a. Asked about delivery modality: these are all synchronous classes, with an online option.

b. Are some of our students enrolled at other institutions? We are generally not targeting other schools' students, but potentially staff and faculty at other institutions (such as folks who already have an MD)

c. Certificates are Medical Humanities, Clinical Ethics, Research Ethics

d. Vote: New certificates – all in favor

e. Vote: Stacking certificates. If you complete all of these certificates, it can be stacked to create a master's program. – All in favor.

f. BMS needs to fill out registrar's paperwork, update University Communications, and OAIR since this is a SACS notification of the modality change and new master's/certificate offering

7. SoPA motions

a. All motions have gone through the SoPA's curriculum committee.

b. Question about faculty capacity in the information technology department. There are plans to increase faculty.

c. It is not officially approved, but had a positive site visit for an undergraduate program.

d. Graduate certificate can stack into MS in cybersecurity or information technology, but in those cases, students do have to receive at least a B

e. Vote: Graduate Certificate: Data Science and Cloud – all in favor

f. MPA/MPH – discussion. There are some MSW/MPH degrees. Could they also join this program? It is not an additional certificate, it's an additional degree. It's a parallel program to the MSW/MPH, similar to MPA/MPH. There are electives within SoPA where an MSW student could elect to complete a certificate in PA. H. Francis could discuss with leadership in SSW to promote a certificate in MPA. Requires 66 credits. Vote: Joint Master of Public Administration/Master of Public Health – all in favor.

g. Vote: Master of Public Administration concentration in Public Health. Not a joint program, but a concentration of electives as an alternative to the dual degree. Requires 36 credits, more in line with the normal pathway. All in favor.

h. Vote: Master of Professional Studies required and elective course changes. Some required courses have now become electives, less prescriptive and allows students to pursue other certificates if students so choose. Vote – all in favor

i. Vote: Graduate Certificate: Open Source Intelligence. This is gathering intelligence from publicly available sources. Came from feedback from the advisory board of intelligence and security studies. How to collect, analyze, prepare information. Can be part of security management or homeland security masters of professional studies programs. Is there any way that this can collaborate with the SSW disaster resilience leadership academy? SoPA is working with DRLA to see how they can work together.

     j.   Will you be coordinating with other GIS courses on campus? Started conversations with SSE about opening up SoPA and SSE courses to each other. SLA also has a course in Anthropology in GIS for social sciences (as part of MARI) which would be a good partner. SPHTM has a series of courses on spatial analysis, courses have waitlists. Synergies around GIS. Different policies for graduate students taking courses outside of their schools due to paying for credits, tuition exchange rules, etc.

     k.   Vote – 15 in favor, 1 opposed.

     l.   Deans have agreed that PhD level classes can allow students to take them without the formal tuition exchange. At the master's level, you have to get permission from the student's program as well as the professor and/or the school of the course they want to take.

8.   Meeting adjourned at 9:07, motioned by L. Dornier, seconded by A. Chaffee