

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2023

M. Cunningham, S. Van Bael, J. O'Brien-Brown, R. Stivers, L. Lukkarila, A. Manning, M. Canuto, L. Dornier, K. Andrinopoulos, X. Geng, D. Kullibert, A. Chaffee, S. Bernard, B. Koplitz, M. Miller, G. Morris, A. Gomez (guest), Freed-Thall (guest), A. Anganost, K. Morris, D. Pociask, J. Klein (guest), J. Perez (guest), B. Krauthammer (guest),

1. Meeting called at 8:41
2. Approval of January Minutes, motioned by
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Spring 2023
 - a. March 8
 - b. April 12
 - c. May 10 (if needed)
4. Announcements
 - a. Orientation coordination meeting tomorrow, February 2
 - i. Desire to have a convocation for new graduate and professional students
 - b. April 15 Resolution
 - c. Admissions season
 - d. Introduction of PhD review team
 - i. Programs being reviewed are French and Italian, History, Philosophy, Spanish and Portuguese
 - ii. Next year's programs are Cell and Molecular Biology, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Neuroscience, Psychology
5. BMS Pathology MS – consolidation of two programs
 - a. Consolidate 1-year Molecular Medicine and 2-year Molecular and Cellular Pathobiology into one program
 - i. Questions about fee structure – is this a flat fee or is it by credit hours? Deans can negotiate tuition with the provost, otherwise it is set at the undergraduate rate
 - ii. How do you get to 30 hours? Students can't make an even 30 hours with the courses listed. Students have access to all masters courses throughout the medical school, with approval of the DGS, for their electives
 1. Grad students take a recommended course path very literally. Students will be advised on how to make sure they have adequate hours.
 2. Not a huge cohort, so easy to track potential students
 3. If they're 2-year students, the thesis will be part of it
 4. The idea is that this program will give students more flexibility to choose to do a thesis, 2-year program without reapplying if they started in the 1-year program

5. Students can make this choice at the end of the first year
 - iii. Who usually does this program? Undergrads from Tulane or outside students? One year is a very short period to make any connections with a school and program. One-year students are usually trying to upgrade their records for medical school applications
 1. Undergrads may be able to take graduate courses with preapproval since this isn't a designated 4+1 program
 - iv. Vote, motioned by B. Koplitz, seconded by A. Chaffee, all in favor
 - b. New program will be Molecular Medicine and Health Sciences, with 1-year coursework only and 2-year coursework plus thesis options
 - i. Vote, motioned by A. Chaffee, seconded by X. Geng, all in favor
6. Questions from reviewers
 - a. Is there a university-wide vision of graduate education?
 - i. General feeling that it is school specific. Sometimes a sense that the program/department is at odds with the school. Mission, vision, and values – everything was siloed after Katrina
 - ii. We get questions about minimum requirements. Where they conflict with individual handbooks, it does come back to the minimum requirements set by the university. We also have a requirement that students are reviewed annually but know that many departments aren't consistent with this
 - b. The experience of PhD students and doctoral culture?
 - i. Grad students interact across departments in ways that faculty don't always do. Some of the interdisciplinary centers help with that
 - ii. Interdivisional Graduate Diversity Organizations
 - iii. Intellectual culture – do PhD students often take courses or go to talks in other departments? Some events where students bring in students from other departments to speak
 1. Some students are siloed
 2. Working on cross-pollinating students with different skills to make them more capable in a variety of fields. Bringing back alums to help talk about things
 3. Inviting students to be part of the search process for faculty
 4. CELT has a two-course certificate in pedagogy
7. Tulane was awarded 3 BOR-SREB fellowships
8. Is there anything in the works to generally increase stipends? Very school specific. Academic Affairs is looking at grad student support in general. What about covering all of the health insurance? The petition was not sent to M. Cunningham, so we are not aware of it. Campus Health Fee is now covered
9. Meeting adjourned at 9:35