

Graduate Council Meeting Agenda

October 10, 2018

1. Meeting called at 8:30
2. Introductions
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Fall 2018
 - November 14
 - December 12
 - January 9 (if necessary)
4. Approval of September minutes with the addition of MPS to GC/OGPS's scope. Motioned by E. Sawyer, seconded by L. Dornier. All in favor, with edits
5. Announcements
 - a. Three Minute Thesis Competition on November 14
 - b. Terminal Degree Marketing Fund Applications due on October 17
 - i. For terminal graduate degrees
 - ii. Departments that don't include satisfactory diversity plans will only be eligible for 50% of the possible award
 - iii. Starting next year, departments that do not include a plan will not be eligible for any funding
 - iv. Departments also need to define what underrepresented minorities are for their field
6. DGS Meeting on October 24
 - a. Amjad Ayoubi will present on how Mussafer hall can be used by graduate programs to advertise
 - b. Pipeline initiatives in general will be on the agenda (both for Tulane students and within the city based on the city-wide exchange program for students at other schools). Psychology and Neuroscience for instance have an MOU with Xavier University to allow Xavier students to get a 4+1 here and we'd like to encourage others to consider similar ideas.
7. Update from the AAU Graduate Deans' meeting
 - a. Master's education has increased substantially at all schools (majority of our students at any one time are master's degree students). The challenge is that they don't stay at the university very long. Graduate and Professional students at Tulane range from 38-46% of the total student body.
 - i. Discussions of master's programs as cash-cows versus rigorous academic programs
 - ii. Clear learning objectives and outcomes are a quality of good master's degree programs

- iii. Some schools are adding a staff member as a liaison between students and faculty members (especially for grievance issues). Interesting idea, but not without issues, such as Title IX
 - b. We are not the only AAU school without a graduate school. (Carnegie Mellon, Texas A&M do not have a centralized graduate school)
 - c. We should consider how we can advocate for graduate education when it is often not at the forefront of deans' minds. For example, can we increase health insurance coverage? Can it be done as an incentive for exemplary students?
- 8. Definition of Graduate Faculty
 - a. There's no good way for OGPS to create one university-wide definition
 - b. Schools need to come up with these criteria/lists themselves, school-based graduate councils should work out what their criteria is
 - c. For some schools it may be everyone, for others it may be much more selective
 - d. There is no guideline from SACS about who can/should be graduate faculty
 - e. Can academic analytics be made available? We just had a trial of it last year, so we're not sure how much it's getting used yet
 - f. Can the message that went to the deans be sent to Grad Council? Yes, it will be sent to the group
 - g. We need to figure this out by our December 12 meeting
- 9. SOPA MPS in Sport Studies, Sport Administration, Coaching, and Security Certificates
 - a. Some of these classes are already extant
 - b. The certificates have been proposed as "stacking" certificates
 - c. There are three certificate programs. Students could do a certificate alone (12 hours) if they so choose. Students would need to decide early on if they wanted to do the certificates or a master's degree. If they want the master's degree, they would need to do all the courses associated with two of the certificates (24 hours) plus a methods course and a sport and society course.
 - d. This program is in line with what has been developed in many other universities
 - e. Same admissions requirements for the certificates as the master's degree
 - f. What is the timeline? These are designed for working adults and are completely online. Students could feasibly complete it within a year, but that is not essential
 - g. Security certificate: these courses will be cross-listed with Security Studies/Homeland Security and the courses already exist
 - h. Syllabi have been created for all courses and they have been reviewed by the SOPA committee
 - i. Some of the learning objectives are not measurable (they begin with "understand"), however that is acceptable per SACS
 - j. How many students are expected? SOPA did not do a formal marketing study, but worked with Tulane's Center for Sport and other institutions nationwide. Based on those conversations, SOPA expects about 100 students over the next two years.

- k. Vote for the MPS in Sport Studies: All in favor
- 10. When we approve things, we are giving the provost our recommendation. The provost could still override this
- 11. Next Donut Day on Wednesday, October 17
 - a. We try to add a purpose
- 12. Postdocs
 - a. Postdocs are not staff, but they do use the staff handbook with addenda for specific postdoc issues
 - b. Postdocs have renewable one-year contracts, but cannot be here for more than 5 years
 - c. Slightly different benefits (only 5 vacation days per year that don't roll over, etc)
 - d. The postdoctoral position is supposed to be training
 - e. They can teach courses if it is part of their IDP. It is up to the department/unit
- 13. Motion to adjourn at 9:17