

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2018

A. Childress, J. Christie, L. Pratt, J. Ruscher, Z. Lateefi, L. Dornier, G. Morris, T. Albrecht, M. Cunningham, J. O'Brien, M. Adams, B. Mohan, E. Sawyer, C. Pealer, A. Shankar

1. Meeting called at 8:30
2. Approval of November Minutes, move by J. Ruscher, seconded by Z. Lateefi, all approved.
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Spring 2019
 - o January 9
 - o February 6
 - o March 13
 - o April 10
4. Announcements
 - a. CGS 1/16 webinar about what graduate deans need to know about the new congress. Contact Mike for more information
 - b. OGPS is moving to Richardson Building 221
 - i. Briana Mohan will remain in Mussafer Hall for the time being
 - c. New staff members on campus working with graduate and professional students/programs
 - i. Some attention happening for grad and professional education across campus.
 - ii. Health and welfare staff member, will be housed downtown at Elks Place
 - iii. Director of Communications will hire someone to help promote grad and professional education across the university. Work with schools and departments on their websites
 - iv. Staff member in Admissions for all programs that use Slate. Help use Slate's tools to message applicants regularly.
 - d. Update on immigration and visa issues
 - i. Marco Balducci is available. If anyone is traveling and has concerns about reentry or visas, they should speak to him before they leave.
 - ii. OISS has put out information that every visa is taking longer to process, expedited processing isn't available. Checklists are available to help guide departments and scholars through these processes.
 - iii. First step for people on F, J, H1-B, TN visas should be OISS, but if there are complications that's when Mr. Balducci can help.

- iv. What kind of recourse do students whose visa have been denied have? The university doesn't have many options.
- 5. Discussion on embargo on dissertations/theses – John Christie
 - a. John Christie works in our Technology Transfer Office
 - b. Background: His office files patents on research the university thinks is promising. Patents need to be filed before material could be accessed by any member of the public. His office tries to see articles before they go off for peer review to see if there's anything to patent (though they try to make sure that they don't slow things down too much).
 - c. Occasionally, with a dissertation that they hadn't seen earlier, the office may need to ask for an embargo to do adequate review.
 - d. We're considering a way to rout dissertations or theses through Technology Transfer to make sure that they get seen at some point.
 - e. Does the defense count as disclosure? If the defense is public, then that might count and the checkpoint would need to happen in advance of that. We do allow different programs to determine whether their defenses tend to be public or private.
 - f. Our prospectuses don't always get filed in advance of the defense, which is when it might be possible to have more in depth review.
 - i. All students should have their PhD dissertation prospectus one semester in advance of expected graduation
 - ii. How would we check on Masters students (check on registrations for 9990 and 9980 registrations with the registrar)? We might be able to get that list from the registrar and get it over to Technology Transfer.
 - g. We'll vote on a policy next month.
- 6. April 15th Resolution
 - a. Students can't be forced to accept or reject an offer before then
 - b. International students may have visa issues, however, so they may want to make a decision sooner than that so that they can begin the visa process earlier.
- 7. Term length for GC representatives from professional schools
 - a. Professional schools are now on permanent seats, not rotating
 - b. Proposal to put professional school representatives on 3-year terms like SSE and SLA representatives. A. Childress put forward, J. Ruscher seconded. All in favor.
 - i. We will make sure that we work with individual reps to discuss when their specific term is up so that not everyone rotates off at once.
- 8. Definition of Graduate Faculty
 - a. Graduate Faculty versus Graduate Research Faculty
 - b. Graduate Faculty may be teaching a graduate course, may be able to sit on a dissertation committee
 - c. Graduate Research Faculty

- d. Different demarcations: Research active... such as: publishing, work with grad students in some capacity but may not be the only people supervising theses or dissertations; or Graduate Faculty: able to teach grad students, supervise a thesis but not producing research or grants
 - e. This will need to feed into a list for Academic Analytics
 - f. Hard to have a university definition since the schools are so different
9. Vote on new MSE in Materials Science and Engineering
- a. Department already has a PhD program that was approved recently.
 - b. Both internal and external, thesis and non-thesis options.
 - c. No change to faculty.
 - d. Advisory council seems possibly small, but they are not expecting a high number of students given the capacity of the department
 - e. Can a thesis be done in one year? In similar departments, only internal students are allowed to do a thesis since many of them are extensions of research that was begun as undergraduates. Three semesters for the external applicants may be more reasonable.
 - f. We can recommend that the thesis option be restricted to internal 4+1 students
 - g. Motion to approve, T. Albrecht, seconded by L. Dornier, all in favor.
10. SPHTM request for changes in department title, call letters, and degree type
- a. Change of name from Department of Global Health Management and Policy to Department of Health Policy and Management since the focus has become more domestic. (notification)
 - b. MSPH is meant to be a practice/professional degree, whereas our degree is more academic in focus.
 - c. Vote to approve change, G. Morris, seconded, M. Cunningham, all approved
11. Proposed name change for the PhD in Economic Analysis and Policy to PhD in Economics
- a. Has been unanimously approved within SLA
 - b. Motion to approve, T. Albrecht, seconded, M. Adams, all in approval
12. Next Donut Day will be downtown!