Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2022


PhD reviewers S. Tucker, C. Masiello, D. Pocanic, K. Hohn, L. Rossi

1. Meeting called at 8:31
2. Approval of March Minutes, F. Wietfeldt, seconded by G. Morris
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Spring 2022
   a. May 11, virtual
      i. We may have the PhD reviews back by that point
4. Announcements
   a. Diane Blake will be retiring at the end of June.
   b. Commencement
      i. Class of 2020 – April 22, 2022 at 6:30 pm, Yulman Stadium
         1. All students will walk, PhD students will be hooded
      ii. Class of 2022 – May 20 and 21, 2022
      iii. Hooding Ceremony for SLA, SSE, and BMS Class of 2022 on Friday, May 20 at 3 pm, McAlister Auditorium
5. PhD Reviews
   a. Ongoing this week, began on Monday.
   b. Formative reviews – we want to know what’s working well, what can be improved/enhanced. What can we do more centrally? Discussion of the history of the graduate school and graduate faculty.
6. Thesis and Dissertation Policy change came from the library. Thesis and dissertations will not be accepted at the library on paper. All dissertations have to be uploaded to ProQuest as has been the case. Some students would like to have a printed version for themselves – is that something that can be accommodated? It will need to be done outside of the library system. ProQuest can bind these as well.
   a. OGPS will send out the memo that was forwarded to the deans
   b. Virtual defenses are still permitted
7. Introduction of PhD reviewers and explanation of the purpose of Graduate Council
8. SPHTM/SOM joint PhD:
   a. Vote: To approve new PhD program, motioned by L. Dornier, seconded by F. Wietfeldt, all in favor.
9. SoPA: Notice about changes to credit hours in MS in Health and Wellness Management and in MS in Sport Studies; change to electives in MS in Sport Studies
   a. Approved by SoPA’s curriculum committee, no vote required at GC
10. SoPA: New Master of Education program  
   a. Vote: To approve new M. Ed program, motioned by M. Adams, seconded by F. Wietfeldt, all in favor  
   b. May be a more significant process with SACS since we have not offered a M. Ed in more than five years  
11. SoPA: Graduate Certificates in: Equity-Centered Education Leadership, Learner Experience Design, Special Education, and Teaching English Learners  
   a. These are four separate certificates. Will these be available to current undergraduates? These are post-bac programs but it’s possible that there will be a 4+1 or accelerated master’s program. After this passes, there will be a bridge program for students to a MAT, etc.  
   b. Vote: To approve new certificates, motioned by F. Wietfeldt, seconded by B. Koplitz, all in favor  
12. SoPA: New Master of Arts in Teaching  
   a. Another degree that we used to have which went away, thus this will be a significant change for SACS. This is a way for students to get their certification to teach and satisfy requirements for teachers.  
   b. Vote: To approve new MAT program, motioned by B. Koplitz, seconded by S. Van Bael, all in favor  
13. River-Coastal Science and Engineering: New PhD and MS  
   a. This program has operated as an interdisciplinary PhD within SSE for a few years. Their certificate has been very successful so far. There were 25 students in the certificate program classes. A lot of interest from people who work with the Army Corps of Engineers. There are 4 full time faculty members, so they are looking at cohorts of 3-5 students. The program will be based uptown with some work being done at the River Coastal Center. Is there a shuttle that runs between the River Coastal Center and Uptown Campuses? 3 of the 4 faculty who work in this are doing mainly modeling rather than wet-lab types of work. Space in Boggs is being adapted to provide space for the department as it gets started, the dean has been fund raising for the program and start up packages have been developed for faculty.  
   b. There may be ties to bioinformatics and the archaeologists/anthropologists have done some modeling in the region  
   c. Motion to vote on the programs, L. Dornier, seconded by G. Morris.  
   d. Vote: To approve new PhD in River-Coastal Science and Engineering, two abstentions, rest were in favor  
   e. Vote: To approve new MS in River-Coastal Science and Engineering, all in favor  
14. Motion to adjourn at 9:24, G. Morris, seconded by F. Wietfeldt  

Addendum to the minutes from June 28, 2022: the Masters of Arts in Teaching was approved at 30 credit hours in error and should have read 33 credit hours.