

**Graduate Council  
Minutes  
August 29, 2014**

The Graduate Council met Friday, August 29, 2014 at 1:00 pm in the Dogwood Room of the University Center.

Members present: K. Cooper-Duffy, L. Comer, C. Cosner, M. Fenton, M. Hollis, B. Kloepfel, B. Lahm, K. Mathews, D. Martinez, E. McNelis, E. Nissly, T. Orr, M. Tanaka, H. Thompson Rainey, K. Starr, and L. Unruh

Members absent: T. Creasy, E. Myers, C. Parrish, S. Rajagopal, D. Sally and E. Tapley,

Others present: E. Frazier

**Announcements**

Enrollment update from Dean Fenton - The pre-census enrollment number is 1593 graduate students. The census enrollment from 2013 fall term was 1658 so the 2014 enrollment is down 3.9% or 65 students. Forty-three students were dropped for non-payment on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and some but not all have been reinstated. Graduate School applications are down 26% over last year.

On July 1, 2014, the Graduate School application fee was increased by \$10.00. The additional funds will be allocated back to graduate programs for marketing and recruiting.

The Program Directors Workshops are scheduled for September 10 and 11 from 2-4 pm in 136 Killian Annex.

The Three Minute Thesis competition has been tentatively scheduled for November 3 at Biltmore Park and November 4 at the Cullowhee campus.

Kevan Frazier has been hired as the new Executive Director for Biltmore Park Programs.

Curriculum implementation is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Program updates:

The History program is engaged in the WCU 125<sup>th</sup> celebration. History graduate students are working with Haywood County on an oral history project.

The DPT program graduated its first class in May 2014 with a 100% pass rate.

The MHS program admitted 35 new students and waitlisted/denied 25% of the total applicants. The program is fully enrolled and at capacity. MHS is preparing for a program review during the 2014-15 academic year.

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) held its first meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Attendance was good and officers for the year were selected. This year the GSA is planning alumni speaker series, a Leadership Academy, and an academic journal. Travel grants of up to \$500 are available from GSA. Information about activities and travel grants will be posted on the GSA website.

The Special Education program reported that Creativity Camp for gifted children was again held over the summer. The Special Education/ Low Incidence federal grant received by the Special Education program for master's level students has been completed and the final report has been written. Fifty-three students participated in the federal grant program.

The Psychology program reported that the intent to plan proposal for a new Doctor of Psychology degree was selected for submission to General Administration. If approved, the Psychology Department will begin writing and submitting the curriculum for the new degree program.

Financial Aid reported that drop for nonpayment occurred on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, and disbursements are underway so refunds can begin next week.

The Counseling program reported that beginning next year both Counseling programs will be full-time at Biltmore Park. Counseling courses will no longer be offered on the Cullowhee campus.

Math reported that this is the final year for the Math graduate programs. Four students are graduating this year, one in December 2014 and three in May 2015.

The MST program reported that 36 students are enrolled in the MST program, 21 Cullowhee campus students and 15 Biltmore Park students. Kimmel School received a \$625,000 Sperry grant to vertically integrate engineering students. The Kimmel School acquired \$500,000 of Rapid Prototyping equipment to machine metal.

The Entrepreneurship program reported that the program has a good mix of students from other graduate programs including Accountancy, Human Resources, MBA and Technology.

The Biology program reported 11 new graduate students and 18 returning students. Three exceptional new Biology students were recruited with the additional out-of-state tuition remissions and higher assistantship stipends allocated by the Graduate School.

English reported that the Technical Professional Writing certificate has been revised. The certificate is now geared toward the technical and professional writing professions. The ENGL 605 Introduction to Technical Writing course is changing to ENGL 402/502. The program is also adding a grant writing course.

The Nursing program reported:

- 11 new Nurse Educator students and 17 continuing Nurse Educator students
- 1 RN to BSN student
- 8 new Nurse Leadership students and 10 continuing Nurse Leadership students
- 5 new DNP students and 5 continuing DNP students
- 15 new Nurse Anesthesia students and 16 continuing Nurse Anesthesia students
- 25 new 2 year full-time Family Nurse Practitioner students and 47 continuing 3 year part-time Family Nurse Practitioner students

Nursing will be doing an accreditation self-study in preparation for a 2016 accreditation review. Four or five Nurse Anesthesia students will be traveling to Chad, Africa to work with a former Nurse Anesthesia faculty member.

**Approval of the Minutes** Motion and second to approve the minutes for the April 11, 2014 meeting. Motion passed.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Academic Policy and Graduate Faculty Review**

The following persons were approved by the Graduate Faculty Review Committee as members of the graduate faculty and came as a seconded motion for approval.

Dr. Joseph Lambert	Math	Associate
Dr. Charles Campbell	Technology	Associate

#### **Curriculum Review**

No report.

#### **Student Financial Assistance**

No report.

#### **Planning**

No report.

#### **Agenda Items**

Graduate Council committee assignments were distributed and discussed. Each committee met to discuss meeting dates and priorities for the upcoming academic year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Submitted by – Elizabeth Frazier

Please note: All attachments are on file in the Graduate School with the Graduate Council meeting minutes.