

**Graduate Council
Minutes
August 16, 2019**

The Graduate Council met on Friday, August 16, 2019 at 1:00 pm in the UC Dogwood Room.

Members present: J. Bowers-Campbell, J. Campbell proxy David McCord, J. Crolley-Simic, J. Hyman, B. Kloeppe, R. Laboray, H. Rimes, T. Orr, A. Perry, F. Razzaghi, T. Rogers, A. Rutishauser, R. Scales, M. Snyder, Y. Yan and P. Yanik

Members absent: M. Claxton, B. Gehrig, L. Hammer, Y. Hillon, D. Hudson, C. Parrish, and S. Rader

Others present: E. Frazier, P. Bricker, L. Roberts, A. Bobilya, C. Schultz

Approval of the Minutes Motion and second to approve the minutes for the March 8, 2019 meeting. Motion passed.

Introduction of Graduate Council Members

Program Updates

Rachel Walker's last day working for the Western Carolina University is August 16.

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) announced a revitalization plan. There are now GSA executive representatives for the Cullowhee campus, the Biltmore Park location and distance graduate students. A thesis/disquisition workshop and a grant funding workshop will be scheduled in the 2019 fall term. Have students contact GSA for more information about how to participate.

Social Work announced that HRSA granted the Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) grant to enhance community-based experiential training for students preparing to become behavioral health professionals with a focus on Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and other Substance Use Disorders (SUD) prevention, treatment, and recovery services. The program will provide funding for training behavioral health professionals in the provision of OUD and other SUD prevention, treatment, and recovery services in high need and high demand areas. The program will impact the quality and access to behavioral health and substance use services in high need and high demand areas by increasing the number of professionals and transforming integrated behavioral health and primary care teams to effectively prevent and treat OUD and other SUD in community-based practices. Students enrolled in the Substance Abuse Studies Certificate Program (SASCP) are eligible to participate in the program and will be eligible to receive a \$10,000 stipend during the final year of their program. MSW and Clinical Mental Health Counseling students are eligible.

The doctorate of Social Work will be coming before the Graduate Council curriculum coming in the next few months.

The doctorate of Physical Therapy program is starting a new expansion program to Biltmore Park and implementing a new curriculum.

The Masters of Public Affairs program is excited about enrollment growth.

The Higher Education Student Affairs program announced that fourteen of the seventeen 2019 May graduates are employed.

Patrick Baron is the new program director for Health Sciences. The Master of Health Sciences program and the undergraduate health sciences program have been combined under a single program director. An MS in Dietetic Internship program is under development.

Psychology started the first class of PsyD students. The Psychology Department has scheduled two visiting scholars, Dr. Thomas Joyner and Dr. Scott Lilienfeld, to present during the academic year.

Beginning August 19, the library entrance will only be accessible using a Cat Card after 10:00 p.m.

The Technology program will be undergoing a major curriculum change. Yuanrui Sang, an MS Technology graduate and 3MT winner, received her PhD will be working in El Paso Texas.

Enrollment in the College of Education and Allied Professions is up.

Financial Aid distributed a compliance document about the definition of “full-time” for graduate students in the summer term. A graduate program can establish a full-time definition that is less than the full-time standard during the fall and spring terms. The question was raised by the Financial Aid Office whether to continue the current standard of defining 6 hours of enrollment as full-time and 3 hours as half-time in the summer term.

Standing Committee Formation

Updates will be made to the committee membership lists, and the updated committee document will be distributed to Graduate Council members by e-mail.

Academic Policy and Graduate Faculty Review

Joy Bowers-Campbell is the Chair of the Academic Policy and Graduate Faculty Review Committee for the 2019-20 academic year.

Topics for review and discussion include:

No attendance in the admit term and dropping future registration
Review of the language proficiency policy

Curriculum Review

Tom Rogers is the Chair of the Curriculum Committee for the 2019-20 academic year.

No new curriculum to review; however, there are two curriculum items outstanding for discussion.

Financial Assistance

Jeremy Hyman is the Chair of the Financial Assistance Committee for the 2019-20 academic year.

Dean Report

Enrollment Update

The point in time Enrollment Report was distributed.

For the 2019 fall term is up 106 students point in time from last year and SCHs are up 1008 point in time from last year. The enrollment goal for the 2019 fall term is 1637 which is twenty-five more students than the 2018 fall term enrollment of 1612.

The Chancellor has formed an enrollment committee to set enrollment targets.

Associate Dean Report

The fall program director’s workshop is scheduled for September 4 and 5 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in Blue Ridge Conference Room A. Future consideration will be given for program director workshops that cater to distance programs and Biltmore Park programs. Please submit suggestions for the spring term program director’s meeting. There will be a spring term program director’s meeting scheduled at Biltmore Park.

Update on scheduled meetings to visit with program director’s one on one. By the end of August, the meetings will be 50% complete with 80% of meeting scheduled. Discussions include 1) who a typical student is in the program, 2) what is the program most proud of, 3) perceived threats 4) how can Graduate School be a partner and help with resources.

Please encourage graduate students to participate in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition on October 30, 2019. The 3MT application is available on the Graduate School website.

Graduate School employees from East Tennessee State University visited the Graduate School in August.

Agenda

MS Experiential and Outdoor Education Request to Establish

Patricia Bricker, Associate Dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions, Lisen Roberts, Department Head for Human Services, Andrew Bobilya, Professor in the Parks and Recreation program, and Callie Shultz, Assistant Professor in the Parks and Recreation program, presented the “MS Experiential and Outdoor Education Request to Establish” proposal.

The Dean of the Graduate School requested discussion of the proposal by the Graduate Council before signing off on the proposal. A motion to endorse the proposal was made and seconded. The Graduate Council voted to endorse the proposal.

Graduate Assistantships Contracting / Onboarding Students and Electronic Hiring in People Admin Update

With the help of Alicia Estes in Human Resources three pilot programs tested the People Admin Talent Management module for the hiring process of graduate assistants. April Perry reported on the pilot programs test results.

Program directors who hire graduate assistants will be trained in the new graduate assistant hiring process for the 2020-21 academic year.

Revisit Graduate Catalog Policy Exceptions to the Language Proficiency Requirement

The Academic Policy and Graduate Faculty Review Committee will review the Graduate Catalog “Policy Exceptions to the Language Proficiency Requirement” to address a question regarding the use of standardized test scores (GRE and GMAT) as an exception.

Graduate Council Agenda Topics

Please send Dean Kloeppel Graduate Council agenda topics for the 2019-20 academic year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Submitted by – Elizabeth Frazier

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