

**Graduate Council
Minutes
November 6, 2020**

The Graduate Council met on Friday, November 6, 2020 at 1:00 pm via ZOOM.

Members present: J. Bowers-Campbell, J. Campbell (D. McCord proxy), D. Carnes, J. Carzoli, M. Claxton, B. Gehrig, D. Hudson, B. Kloeppe, R. Laboray, E. McCoy, A. Perry, S. Rader, F. Razzaghi, H. Rimes, M. Snyder, A. Storm, A. Stuckey Y. Yan (P. Yanik proxy) and P. Yanik

Members absent: L. Hammer, Y. Hillon, T. Orr, and C. Parrish

Others present: E. Frazier

Approval of the Minutes Motion and second to approve the minutes for the October 9, 2020 meeting. Motion passed.

Program Updates

Graduate School is continuing with monthly virtual open house events which have been very successful. Virtual open house events allow for more international student participation as well.

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) reported on the graduate student satisfaction survey results from 245 respondents are still under review. GSA is planning one more event before the end of the term and is considering the topic of mental health. GSA is also planning a town hall event in the 2021 spring term to discuss the coronavirus. GSA increased the number of Executive Council members.

Technology reported that the international students who deferred for the 2021 spring term may be able to attend now that embassy appointments are being scheduled.

MFA reported the Next Wave 2020 MFA candidacy exhibition of new work by 2nd year MFA candidates: Eli Blasko . Kate Chassner . Seth Echlin Kyle Kelsey. The exhibition dates are November 6 to December 1 at Ramp Gallery, 821 Riverside Drive, Asheville, NC 28801 which is open to the public from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday – Friday. The artist presentations are at Zoom <https://wcu.zoom.us/j/83272415740> on November 18th from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. The work in this exhibition surveys a range of conceptual themes and creative approaches that characterize a local to global cultural landscape and contemporary art practice. The MFA at Western Carolina University is an interdisciplinary studio art program and creative research environment where ideas are given form. Students are encouraged to explore, make and engage. We would like to thank REVOLVE<<http://www.revolveavl.org/>> for their continued support and collaboration.

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 and were approved.

Dr. Heather Hill	Human Services	Affiliate
Dr. John Bryant	Human Services	Affiliate
Dr. Angela Mech	Biology	Affiliate

Approved.

The policy change approved at the October 9th Graduate Council meeting has been submitted in Curriculog.

Curriculum Review

The following curriculum items were reviewed by the Curriculum Committee and came as a seconded motion for approval and were approved.

Construction Management Land Development (Post Baccalaureate Certificate)

Explanation: We have not taught the classes necessary for this Construction Management Land Development certificate program for years due to a lack of instructors to cover the classes. We have decided to delete this program that we actually do not offer.

Program Description: The post baccalaureate graduate certificate in Construction Management with a land development concentration is designed for anyone interested in learning about the land development business and process.

Approved.

Financial Assistance

Melissa Snyder, a member of the Financial Assistance Committee, presented and reviewed the updated draft document for Graduate Excellence Award application and selection criteria and procedures. The distributed document was reviewed and discussed.

The Graduate Excellence Awards application and selection criteria process document was approved by the Graduate Council.

Dean Report

Spring 2021 Enrollment Update

Dean Kloepfel reported on the third weekly graduate enrollment report for Spring 2021 distributed to the college deans on November 6th . Census will occur on Friday 05 February 2021.

Currently, we have 1175 of our graduate students enrolled accounting for 10,252 SCHs for Spring 2021. We are up 542 graduate students enrolled, point in time, compared to Spring 2020. Graduate student credit hours are up 4,809 SCHs, point in time, compared to Spring 2020. Overall, WCU Spring 2021 enrollment is currently 6,178 students which is up 5,546 students, point in time. Our later Spring 2021 semester start date is contributing to these higher point in time values.

We had 195 graduate students enroll this week. We also fully admitted (S-decided) this week 20 new graduate students including 11 students for Spring 2021, 8 students for Summer 2021, and 1 student for Fall 2021 who were recommended for admission by Graduate Program Directors.

We wish to highlight the following 6 graduate programs that are currently enrolled for the Spring 2021 semester at the same or higher level compared to Census Day in Spring 2020:

Education and Allied Professions:

School Counseling, MAEd:

24 students, +2

Experiential and Outdoor Education, MS (new program):

21 students, +21

Doctorate in Psychology, PsyD:

5 students, even

Health and Human Sciences:

Nurse Anesthesia, DNP (conversion from MS):

38 students, +7

Physical Therapy, DPT:

125 students, +17

Social Work, MSW:

84 students, +5

Headcount and Student Credit Hour Summary: up 542 students (1175 vs. 633), up 4,809 SCHs (10,252 vs. 5,443)

Slate Software Installation Update

Graduate School in coordination with the undergraduate Admissions Office is implementing a new application and CRM platform called Slate.

~~The implementation schedule is for one year.~~ Graduate application entry into Slate began November 1st ~~or 15th~~ and will continue for one year. As graduate programs transition from Apply Yourself to Slate, graduate program directors and staff will be notified and trained in Slate by Associate Dean Joy Bowers-Campbell.

Programs implemented to date are Human Resources and School Counseling Licensure. Programs will continue to be added in the upcoming weeks.

The review process in Slate is being rolled out in the “Reader Bin.” Meetings will be scheduled with programs to train on review. Most programs implemented by February.

Associate Dean Report

The 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) live stream virtual event will be on November 12th from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Information about the 3MT virtual event is available on the 3MT Graduate School website. The event can be viewed on Facebook and YouTube

Twenty-seven students registered for the 3MT and seventeen submitted video submissions from a variety of graduate programs. Ten student videos were selected for the 3MT live stream virtual event. The 3MT judges will select the first and second place winners and event participants will vote for the People’s Choice award. Provost Starnes will announce the winners at the end of the event.

First prize is a \$500 tuition award and a \$500 cash award funded by GSA. The second place and People’s Choice prize is a \$250 tuition award and a \$250 cash award funded by GSA. The first place winner will compete at the Southern Council of Graduate Schools regional competition to be held virtually in the 2021 spring term.

Agenda

Academic Year Registration Update

Twenty-two graduate programs participate in academic year registration. Graduate Council members were asked if they had any questions about academic year registration.

Non-Curricular/Policy Clarification Task Force

Dave Hudson, the Graduate Council representative on the Faculty Senate Academic Policy Review Committee (APRC), is serving on a Non-Curricular/Policy Clarification Task Force working on the curriculum pathways proposal as part of the APRC. He shared with the Graduate Council a proposed change from a task force draft report. The report proposed the change for graduate curriculum to go from Graduate Council to the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) then to APRC which adds an extra step to the approval process. It was proposed to Graduate Council that APRC not add the extra step but can consult with the UCC if needed. Graduate Council agreed to the proposed change and agreed that oral feedback was enough consensus for the proposed change.

Another recommended change is to have not one, but two Graduate Council members serve on the UCC. The Chair of the Graduate Council Curriculum Committee currently serves on the UCC. The Dean of the Graduate School or a designee also serves as an ex-officio member of the UCC.

Graduate Council Agenda Topics

Please send Dean Kloeppel Graduate Council agenda topics for the 2020-21 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.