

GRADUATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – January 27, 2011

Present: Shirley Andrews (for Janet Foster), Nolan Argyle, Mary Block, Dianne Dees, Nathan Elliott, Ransom Gladwin (for Luis Bejarano), Hanae Kanno, Wallace Koehler, Ellice Martin, Reynaldo Martinez, Brian Ring (for Jim Loughry), Michael Sanger, Mike Savoie, Mel Schnake, Ruth Stonestreet, Nancy Swanson, Kate Warner (presiding), David Wasieleski. Guests: Misty Lamb, Don Leech, Samantha Walls, Rebecca Waters, and Teresa Williams.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Warner at 2:04 PM.

Minutes from December's meeting were approved.

Catalog Change – Graduate School: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Teresa Williams explained that the change in the wording for second master's degree programs would allow students in dual programs (i.e., MPA and I/O Psychology) to complete both degrees without waiting to graduate from one. A question was raised about transfer credit – there was a maximum of 9 hours allowed, but it was agreed to make the issue program specific. Some programs are not able to offer courses here but students can take elsewhere and transfer as long as the courses meet SACS and BOR requirements (for second master's degree). The proposal was approved.

Catalog Change – MED Middle Grades & Secondary Art Education: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Mike Savoie said that the proposal will more clearly align department and program information with current National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) language. He mentioned changes suggested by the Academic Committee. The proposal was approved.

New Course – BIOL 6520: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Brian Ring reported that the course will serve as an additional elective for graduate students and no other biophysics courses are offered at VSU. The proposal was approved.

Reactivation of CRJU 7910: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Shani Gray said that the internship opportunity would allow students to become specialized in a particular field and make connections for future job prospects. The proposal was approved.

Deactivation of CRJU 7720 and 7730: Motion was made to acknowledge for informational purposes; seconded. Shani Gray mentioned since the faculty member who teaches these courses is no longer here, the courses should be discontinued. The material from the courses could be taken from a combination of other CJ graduate courses. The motion was approved to acknowledge for informational purposes.

Curriculum/Catalog Changes/CRJU 7411/7412 – MSCJ: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Shani Gray explained that the Academic Committee has already reviewed and suggested corrections. The proposal for CRJU 7999 was removed. A handout of corrected copies was distributed. Primary change was to create a new course for CRJU 7412 so that graduate students will have both a research course and a methods course. Probationary Admission: will be using a rubric or points system to determine status; will work with the Graduate School's admissions personnel to update wording or publish the rubric for clarity purposes. The proposals also included changes for certification purposes – to better organize the program so that students can take two tracks and use more electives giving students more direction. Courses are now taught on a rotation basis; the changes would allow more consistency in offerings. The proposals were approved.

New Program – Certification in Teaching ESOL: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Ransom Gladwin reported that the proposal would create a total of five courses for certification purposes by adding ESOL 6040 and 6050. As part of a Strategic Focus Initiative, a certificate-length curriculum would better prepare teachers of ESOL both locally, nationally, and internationally. The proposals were approved.

Curriculum/Catalog Changes – Leadership & Middle/Secondary Ed: Motion was made to approve as a group; seconded. Don Leech said the changes would address the Georgia Professional Standards Commission rules for certification and preparation of educational leaders, necessitating the removal of the leadership certification requirement for admission in the EDS Leadership program; remove the “computer competency;” passing of GACE Leadership for admission; for ACT MED in Middle Grades or Secondary Ed – remove the technology certification and GACE testing (technology knowledge and expertise can be identified through specific course work or embedded in programs of study). The EDS in Teaching & Learning (Exemplary Track) and the MED in Accomplished Teaching added “Curriculum and Instruction” to program labels. Ed Leadership Curriculum: New PCS rule changes necessitated the amendment of current program requirements to include pre-service requirements for performance-based leadership preparation and an option for adding an additional certification level (building or system) to a current performance-based leadership certificate. The proposals were approved as a group.

Curriculum Change – MSW: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Michael Sanger explained that 1) two electives were being removed; and 2) students will be allowed to take more electives at the end of their first year. Also, a new trauma course is being added (SOWK 7770) serving as a national pilot course to determine effectiveness of educating child welfare students-employees. The proposals were approved.

Resolution: The question was raised if other departments had trouble filling courses in the summer. Many responded yes, but also scheduling and budgets made a difference. The committee passed a resolution for the graduate dean – to investigate the possibility of problems with departments having obligations to teach graduate level courses in the summer (teach year round); why are there not adequate funds for summer teaching? It was understood that funding varied by department and college.

Other Business

1. GRE changes: Rebecca Waters reported that ETS is completely overhauling the test. The GRE will be offered August through mid-November but students will not receive scores until December, after the November 15 spring application deadline. This will affect spring 2012 deadlines. More information to follow.
2. Third Annual Graduate Research & Scholarship Symposium: Teresa Williams said that a call for nominations will be sent to program coordinators soon. The date of the symposium – April 29 (4:00 to 6:00 pm).

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Teresa Williams

Recorder, Teresa Williams

Kate Warner

Kate Warner for Karla Hull