

GRADUATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – January 23, 2014

Meeting Location: Room 1604, Odum Library

Present: Mary Block, Bonni Cohen (for Brenda Dyal), Brenda Dixey (for Janet Foster), Matt Grant, E-Ling Hsiao, Lyle Indergaard, Sandra Kregar, Wallace Koehler, Jennifer Lambert-Shute (for Kate Warner), James LaPlant (presiding), Jim Loughry, Ellice Martin, Rusty McClung, David Nelson, Michael Sanger, Mel Schnake, Nancy Swanson, Sherman Yehl. Guests: Lauren Braun, Rebecca Petrella, Tiara Ross, Teresa Williams.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. James LaPlant at 2:03 PM.

Minutes from the November 21, 2013 meeting were approved.

Graduate School

Revised Catalog Copy – International Applicants: This proposal was reviewed at the November 21 meeting, but tabled because more information was needed regarding the move to requiring TOEFL percentiles instead of raw scores. Dr. LaPlant said that it was recommended that programs continue using raw scores as benchmarks. Motion made to approve; seconded. The proposal was approved.

Lauren Braun (International Programs) also mentioned that she would be happy to address questions regarding standard requirements for international students (waivers based on GPA), English Language Institute letters of conditional acceptance, and international students in online vs. on campus programs (international students must be enrolled in face-to-face courses). If students switch to online programs while here, it has to be reported.

College of Arts

Reactivation of MUE 7999, Revised Courses – MUSC 5510, 7050, 7240, 7340, 7440, 7540, 7640, 7777, 7840, and 7940: Lyle Indergaard said that the proposals will reactivate the thesis course; change credit hours for eight applied courses from 2 to 1 hour per week.

Curriculum Change – MMP; New Courses MUSC 5512, 5891, 5893, 5894; Revised Catalog Copy: The proposals will increase hours in a core course and implement revised degree requirements and update catalog information. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The proposals were approved.

College of Arts and Sciences

New Course – BIOL 5050: Jim Loughry explained that the undergraduate equivalent was previously approved; this proposal, the graduate component, will provide training in statistical analysis of data and is open to other disciplines in the sciences and social sciences. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The proposals were approved.

College of Business Administration

Revised Catalog Copy – Master of Accountancy (MACC): Nancy Swanson said the proposal updates the admissions requirements: the GMAT will be waived if an applicant's undergraduate GPA is 3.5 or higher. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The proposal was approved.

New Course – MBA 7409: Mel Schnake said that there is a large demand for international business courses, and maintenance of accreditation requires a significant international component. This course will help to expand MBA students' global awareness and understanding of other cultures. Friendly edits were suggested. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The proposal was approved.

College of Education and Human Services

Revised Courses – MFT 6700, 6800, 7500, 7050: Jennifer Lambert-Shute explained that a name change is necessary for 6800, 6700 and 7500 which are no longer cross listed courses, and 7050's name and description are being changed to amplify best practices linking theory and practice.

Curriculum Change and New Course – MFT 6900: The curriculum change moves 6700 from a required to an elective course. MFT 6900 fills a gap in theoretical offerings and will be a required course. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The MFT proposals were approved.

Curriculum Change (2) – MED in Reading Education; Revised Course – READ 7100; New Courses – READ 5999, 7161, 7171: Brenda Dixey said that the proposals would remove LEAD 7210 from the curriculum and change READ 7100 from 2 to 3 hours. EDUC 5999 will incorporate content information related to ethics for reading specialists in alignment with International Reading Association standards and outcomes. READ 7161 will address reading and writing difficulties in Grades Pk-5; 7171 will address difficulties in grades 4-12. Friendly edits were suggested. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The proposals were approved. It was suggested that deactivation forms for READ 7160 and 7170 be sent through respective committees.

Revised Course – PSYC 7971; Deactivation – PSYC 7972; Curriculum Change – EDS School Counseling; Revised Catalog Change – EDS School Counseling; Revised Courses – SCHC 8400, PSYC/SCHC 8400: The proposals from Psychology and Counseling were tabled since no one was present to address questions from the committee.

Revised Catalog Copy – Master of Social Work: Michael Sanger said the application deadlines are being moved up so that VSU's program could be more competitive with other MSW programs. GRE scores will be modified to reflect the revised ETS GRE test score concordance scale. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The proposals were approved.

Library

Revised Course – MLIS 7440; Revised Catalog Copy – MLIS: Wallace Koehler said that the change would align the course description in the catalog more closely with course content. The change in Examples of Outcomes and Assessments would bring the section in line with other graduate program outcomes and assessments. Motion was made to approve; seconded. The proposals were approved.

Other Business:

1. Graduate Student Graduation: Dr. LaPlant said that the Deans' Council and Registrar Stanley Jones discussed the possibility of allowing graduate students to walk early. This will benefit students finishing degree requirements in the summer since there is no summer commencement or a separate Friday night graduate ceremony. Mr. Jones will post the application to walk early as soon as he has permission to do so from President McKinney.

2. Writing Task Force Update: Dr. LaPlant hopes to convene the committee in February. Dr. Pat Miller will offer a writing quality course, ENGL 8300, this summer. It is a 3-hour course that can be substituted as dissertation or thesis hours. She will accept 10-12 students. Dr. Miller will join the Committee during its February 20 meeting to discuss her plans for the class.
3. Graduate Student Travel Funds: Dr. LaPlant reported that he will allocate funds to award graduate students presenting at conferences \$500 each for travel. An application and instructions will be developed and forwarded to graduate faculty in February.
4. Marketing Update: Dr. LaPlant is developing a marketing list in February. If members of the Committee have questions about funds for advertising in conference programs or discipline-related magazines, let him know. The Graduate School's viewbook is nearing finalization.
5. Graduate Student Symposium: Teresa Williams said that the date for the symposium is April 25, 2014. The Committee was asked if it had a time preference: 3:00-6:00 pm or 4:00-6:00 pm. The 4:00-6:00 time slot was agreed upon. John Crawford will be sponsoring refreshments. Also, the Undergraduate Research Symposium is scheduled for April 8-10.
6. Graduate Assistantships: Dr. LaPlant said he would be reviewing graduate assistantship requests in February and that departments should let him know about GA needs for summer semester.

Motion was made to adjourn, seconded, at 3:17 pm.

Teresa Williams

Teresa Williams, Recorder

James T. LaPlant

James T. LaPlant, Ph.D., Interim AVP for
Research and Dean of the Graduate School