

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK
Graduate Council Minutes
April 27, 2011

Members Present: Dearman, Dorsey, Hossain, Jennings, Kim, Kuralt, Lanza, Liles, McAlpine, Mirivel, Nolen, Pierce, Seigar, Turturro, Wood, Zacher

Members Absent: Briscoe, Bauer, Cantrell, James, Moak, Sweeney, Yoshigoe

Others Present: Barrett, Brooks, Fincher, Miller Lewis, Pellicane, Vander Putten

Meeting started @2:36pm

Minutes from April 13, 2011, meeting approved

Report of Curriculum Committee:

College of Professional Studies

(11-1120) CRJU 7330	Capstone Project	New Course (approved)
(11-1121) CRJU 7330	Capstone Project	Program Change (approved)

College of Education

(11-1152) EDFN 7330	Human Development	Program Change (approved)
HIED PhD	Advance Notice/Comment Form	New Program (reviewed)

Donaghey College of Engineering and Information Technology

(11-1116) SYEN 5384	Computer Methods in Fluids & Heat Xfer	New Course (tabled)
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College of Science and Mathematics

(11-1126) BIOL 5428	Techniques in Molecular Biology	Dual-Listed (approved)
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College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

(11-1156) RHET 7[123]61	Editing Internship	New Course (all approved)
(11-1157) RHET 8301	RHET/MA in Prof.&Technical Writing	Program Change (approved)

Report of Personnel Committee:

Approved for Affiliate Status:

Eduardo Garcia, CPP	Instructor, Currently at UALR	CPS
Suzanne Mitchell, PhD	Exec. Dir. of AR STEM Coalition	CSAM
Cesar M. Compadre, PhD	UAMS, Professor	CSAM

Dean's Report:

Dr. Pellicane stated that the completion of doctoral degrees is serious issue nationwide and that this is the second-most frequent topic of questioning of the Council of Graduate Schools (behind issues related to international students). As time-in-degree increases, students become more and more dissatisfied with their programs. Adequate funding and advising of doctoral students are also issues of concern. He recommended that Council members consider strategies to address these issues.

Associate Dean's Report:

Dr. Lewis reported that the Federal Government has come out with more specific guidelines about measuring satisfactory academic progress for students effective this coming Fall. This affects the number of credits that are eligible for federal financial aid. This is now limited to 45 cr for Master's degrees and 135 cr for PhD degrees. Coordinators will have to start doing degree plans and advising students *each* semester and then sendin a copy to the Graduate School for the students' files.

Last date for theses/dissertations to reach the Graduate School for Spring graduation is May 2nd at 5pm.

The Graduate School will be moving to the fifth floor of the Library around May 15th.

Old Business:

Graduate School Policies: Graduate School International Student Admission (Mirivel)

Dr. Mirivel reintroduced this policy. After some discussion among Council members and a few minor editing suggestions, Council members approved this policy. Dr. Mirivel said he would make these editing changes and circulate to the Graduate Council listserv for final review.

Graduate School Policies: Continuous Registration and Leave of Absence (Pellicane)

Dr. Pellicane presented the final draft of this policy. Discussion among members ensued. Dr. Pellicane stated that a continuous registration fee, if approved next year to supplement this policy, would have to ultimately go before the Board of Trustees. Council members approved this policy in principle, but wanted to see a final draft, edited by Dr. Kuralt, which will be sent by email to Council. If no objections are raised, this policy will have been considered approved by Graduate Council.

Graduate School Guidelines: Comprehensive Exams (Pellicane)

Dr. Pellicane talked about these guidelines as standardizing terminology and specifying minimally what needed to be done in each type of examination, if and only if programs require these examinations. Some discussion ensued, but Council members decided to table these guidelines.

Graduate School Guidelines: Thesis and Dissertation Definitions (Pellicane)

Dr. Pellicane stated that he researched definitions of theses and dissertations and suggested that we adopt these guidelines to clarify expectations of students developing these works. Dr. Nolen suggested that these guidelines be added to the Thesis and Dissertation Guide published by the Graduate School. Dr. Lewis stated that that guide will be updated this summer. Council members accepted these guidelines.

Other Business:

Election of 2011-12 Graduate Council Chair and Vice-Chair

Dr. Jennings expressed a concern that he might not be on Graduate Council next year as he is up for reelection by the EIT College and he hadn't decided if he would run for reelection and didn't know if he would be elected if he ran. Dr. Lanza made a motion that if Dr. Jennings is on Graduate Council next year that he serve another term as Graduate Council Chair next year; this was approved by the Council. Council members agreed to hold elections at the first Council meeting in the Fall if this was not the case. Dr. McAlpine, as Vice Chair, agreed to represent Graduate Council at the Chancellor's Leadership Retreat during the first week of August as Dr. Jennings will be unavailable.

Meeting adjourned 4:30pm