

UA Little Rock Graduate Council  
February 13, 2019 3:00 p.m.  
Ottenheimer Library, Room 509

## Minutes

### **Members Present:**

Annie Childers, Brian Berry, Roger Dorsey, Sung-Kwan Kim, Gail Hughes, Jim Grover, Yupu Chan, Karen Kuralt, Jerry Stevenson, Nicole Godfrey, Bryce Jackson-Litteken, Rebekah White, Judith Hayn, Trisha Rhodes, Donna Rose

### **Members Absent:**

Qingfang He, Nawab Ali, Gary Geissler, Mengjun Xie, Laura Ruhl, Plichis Yang, Adelene McClenny

### **Others Present:**

Dana Steele, Ross Bradley, Malissa Mathis

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Meeting called to order at **3:04 p.m.**

### **Old Business**

- Approved minutes from January 30, 2019 meeting.

### **New Business**

- Report of the Curriculum Committee
  - **College of Arts, Letter, and Sciences**
    - 18-6100                      BIOL                      4406/5406                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
    - 18-6101                      BIOL                      4407/5407                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
    - 18-6102                      BIOL                      4421/5421                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
    - 18-6103                      BIOL                      4425/5425                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
    - 18-6116                      BIOL                      4201/5201                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
    - 18-6117                      BIOL                      4410/5410                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**

- 18-6118                      BIOL                      4428/5428                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
- 18-6094                      BIOL                      4411/5411                      Course Change  
**APPROVED**
- 18-6095                      BIOL                      4419/5419                      Course Change  
**APPROVED**
- 18-6098                      BIOL                      4402/5402                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
- 18-6099                      BIOL                      4405/5405                      Course Suspension  
**APPROVED**
- 18-1114                      ARHA                      4308/5308                      Course Change/Title  
Change  
**APPROVED**

### **Report of the Policy and Personnel Committee**

- **Graduate Faculty Nominees for Affiliate Students**

- Ashia Hall Muhammad                      Master's                      UA Little Rock                      CALS  
**APPROVED**
- Allison Hiblong                      Master's                      Celeb Attract                      CALS  
**APPROVED**
- Mike L. Perry                      Master's                      UTRC                      CALS  
**APPROVED**

**\*All nominees approved for status except for dissertation.**

### **Dean's Report**

- Announcement about Interim Dean Abhijit Bhattacharyya leaving.
- Referred to additional forms brought to the meeting (Leave of Absence, Graduation Requirements, Academic Clemency for Graduate Students Policy). These concerns were expressed by the committee in the Open Forum.

### **Open Forum**

- Discussion of the Repeat Course Policy. Beginning the Fall semester, should the policy be retroactive or should it be case by case? Thoughts about how to implement this policy: Make exceptions for students that haven't graduated yet. Going retroactive could affect already posted degrees and GPAs. Committee agreed that a version of the policy should be drafted up to explain the process and tiers of faculty involved.
- Concerns about making the Retake and Replace Policy retroactive and the tiers of faculty involved. Should coordinators approve or should Graduate School just approve?

Concerns about what standards will approve or deny a student the right to retake and replace a grade. Some classes, like Independent Studies, Special Topics, etc. are not repeatable. If a student is asking permission to retake and replace a course that is not repeatable, this decision will have to go through the council for a decision. Committee agreed that the coordinator should be informed. Suggested that a coordinator is notified through BOSS or Argos.

- Debate about whether or not the Repeat and Replace Policy should be an everybody can apply, or case by case only apply. All committee members in favor of a process being created due to constraints on retaking certain courses.
- Question: Can dismissed students come back and retake? Answer: Committee came to an executive decision of no.
- Spoke about how the Retake and Replace Policy will affect students that are placed on probation. Would a student be penalized for a repeat? Committee agreed that the probation process needs to be revisited and clarified. Also asked for a few student scenarios to be drafted and brought to the committee.
- (View “Transmittal of Faculty Senate Legislation” Form) Discussion about reducing the two years set out to one year. Talked about limiting semesters. Anyone that is on the Clemency Policy will start at a 3.0 and with a fresh slate. Concerns about this: Will this be taken advantage of? Fear of students abusing this policy to improve their GPA. Agreed that the language needed to be revisited in the policy.
  - In third paragraph adding: “If more than two semesters of credit are needed to reach good academic standing, a special petition must be filed with the graduate school...”
- (View “Leave of Absence” Form) Expressed the need to have consistent information to tell students about the timeline for graduation (seven years = Master’s, ten years = Doctoral). There are cases where students return to complete their degree way after this timeframe. However, there isn’t anything on record that mitigates this seven year/ten year policy. Committee agreed that a policy should be modified and coordinators should be notified.
- (View “Graduation Requirements” Form) Discussion about time limits. Currently, there are time limits on transfer classes (five years) and no time limit for UALR classes. Talked about extending the Time Out Policy for transfer courses. Committee agreed that justifications and clarification of this policy needs to occur.

Meeting adjourned **3:53 p.m.**