

UA Little Rock Graduate Council  
August 28, 2019 3:00 p.m.  
Ottenheimer Library, Room 509

## Minutes

### **Members Present:**

Qingfang He, Roger Dorsey, Gary Geissler, Sung-Kwan Kim, Gail Hughes, Jim Grover, Laura Ruhl, Yupo Chan, Trisha Rhodes, Karen Kuralt, Jerry Stevenson, Donna Rose, Natalie Snow, Nicole Godfrey, T. Greg Barrett, David Manry, John Nichols, Lynne Larsen, Qingfang He

### **Members Absent:**

Annie Childers, Nawab Ali, Adelene McClenny, Bryce Jackson-Litteken, Rebekah White  
Mengjun Xie

### **Others Present:**

Brian Berry, Paula Baker, Dana Steele, Ross Bradley, David Montague, Rachel Hook, Amanda Nolen

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- Meeting called to order at **3:05 p.m.** by Amanda Nolen, President of the Assembly and Faculty Senate.
  - Went around the room and meeting attendees gave introductions.
  - The reading of the constitution occurred.
  - Amanda stressed the importance of faculty involvement. She spoke with the Undergrad last week about shrinking faculty, the difficulty of covering committees, and how committees are currently understaffed.
  - Proposal of the Graduate and Undergraduate committees combining. Expressed that this is a big conversation to have and there is no deadline to make a decision.
  - Amanda Nolen exits the meeting at **3:14 p.m.**

### **Old Business**

- Approved minutes from April 24, 2019 meeting.

### **New Business**

- **Elect Chair** - Dr. Kuralt elected.
  - Dr. Kuralt spoke briefly about the roles and workload to serve on each committee.
  - Confirmed that March 1st is an important deadline for the catalog. For more information about important deadlines for the Graduate catalog, individuals were advised to refer to deadlines listed on <https://ualr.edu/catalogs/how-to-use-the-catalog/>. Committee members were asked to take this information back to their colleges.
  - A sign-in sheet went around the room for committee members to sign-up.
    - **Elect Chair - Curriculum Sub-Committee** - Laura Ruhl elected as chair of Curriculum Sub-Committee.

### **Committee Members:**

- Roger Dorsey
- Jim Grover
- Gary Geissler
- Donna Rose
- David Manry
- Trisha Rhodes
- Lynne Larsen

● **Elect Chair - Personnel/Policies Sub-Committee** - Greg Barrett elected as chair of Personnel/Policies.

### **Committee Members:**

- Sung-Kwan Kim
- John Nichols
- Jerry Stevenson
- Yupo Chan
- Natalie Snow
- Greg Barrett
- Qingfang He
- Gail Hughes

● **Confirm meeting dates for Fall 2019** - Two weeks from 08/28/2019, the next meeting for Graduate Council will occur. Before this meeting, the Curriculum Sub-Committee will meet. The last Graduate Council meeting will occur during the third week of November (11/20/2019). If there are scheduling issues, Dr. Kuralt will send out an email.

### **Dean's Report**

- Dr. Berry looks forward to working with the Committees.
- Went over how he has an open-door policy. He wants to hear committee members' comments, questions, and concerns.
- In September, Dr. Berry will be hosting coordinator meetings with individual colleges. He wants to get through all colleges this fall. He anticipates that during these meetings, he will get a good sense of what is working and what isn't.
  - Dr. Berry wants to know what coordinators need to be their best.
- A Program Coordinators Rough Capacity Analysis will be sent out soon.
  - Should take about five minutes to fill out.
  - From a marketing standpoint, Dr. Berry wants to know based on how programs are staffed now, how many additional students can a program handle.
  - An additional comment box will be available on the form to welcome any additional responses.
- September 3, 2019, is Census Day.
  - Dr. Berry encourages staff to review the enrollment packets and to dig through their programs. Doing this gives individuals an idea of what is going on in their departments.

- The Graduate School has dropped - 17% headcount, 19% SSCH.
- Three programs down - counseling, social work, and education.
- 80% decrease in students. This is the first time Graduate School has been lower than the Undergraduate School.
- Goal: Try to get students enrolled again.
- Addressed budget concerns. Explained that these decisions are tasked by revenue. Expressed that there are going to be some hard discussions this semester and everyone is encouraged to be involved.
- Dr. Berry would like everyone to attend the Senate meeting on Friday, September 30, 2019.
- There was a discussion about budget concerns. He doesn't want anyone to freak out about the budget concerns. "We are not going to stop being an institution." Dr. Berry wants everyone to know that as an institute, "we are in good health."

### **Open Forum**

- Discussed Performance-Based Funding and the information that is being published in the newspaper.
- Concerns about research spending not to par, not spending less, and how it is being spent.
- Went over how Performance Funding works via productivity points.
- Discussed how expenditures and credentials awarded can affect state funding.
- Covered the topic of trendlines.
  - Dr. Berry encourages the committees to explore them. Block out time for learning Trojan Fact Explorer.
  - Trojan Fact Explorer allows you to drill information from the institute to your program level. Allows you to filter and learn a lot of information.
- The committee expressed concern about merging the Graduate and Undergraduate Councils.
  - Afraid of Graduate School losing their voice. Believes that keeping the committees separate allows the Graduate and Undergraduate committees to keep their own voice. All members agree that the Graduate School has a stronger/powerful voice on its own.
  - Committee members are concerned of underrepresentation.
  - Members are concerned that Graduate education and issues may become less of a concern.
  - Proposed a Grad and Undergrad committee at a lower level.
  - All members understand that it is hard to get members and volunteers to participate and serve on committees.
  - Committee members are not in favor of this motion at this time.

Meeting adjourned at **3:51 p.m.**