

UA Little Rock Graduate Council
November 6, 2019, 3:00 p.m.
Ottenheimer Library, Room 509

Minutes

Members Present:

Qingfang He, Laura Ruhl, Karen Kuralt, Jerry Stevenson, Nicole Godfrey, T. Greg Barrett, John Nichols, Lynne Larsen, Roger Dorsey, Sung-Kwan Kim, Nancy Hamilton, Donna Rose, Rebekah White, Bryce Jackson-Litteken

Members Absent:

Nawab Ali, Adelene McClenny, Mengjun Xie, Jim Grover, David Manry, Trisha Rhodes, Gary Geissler, Yupo Chan, Natalie Snow

Others Present:

Paula Baker, Malissa Mathis, Dana Steele, Ross Bradley, Brian Berry

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

Old Business

- Approved minutes from October 23, 2019 meeting.
- 19-6067 DCEIT - Engineering & Science System (Ph.D.) Changes

APPROVED

- Committee voted in favor of striking number five off of CCF 19-6067. They believed this was more of an issue that needs to be addressed by the correct program.
 - “Courses: credit-hours for Doctoral Dissertation Research can not be used to replace the required credit-hours for Systems Engineering Master’s Thesis or Graduate Project”
- The Graduate Council concluded their discussion that the committee members have control over curriculum jurisdiction, but not program governance.
- Graduate Faculty Application of Turaj Ashuri revisited and **APPROVED**. The Policy and Personnel Committee requested minor edits to their application.

New Business

- **Report of the Curriculum Committee**

- College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences

19-6074	GEOG	4325/5325	New Course Mapping TABLED	Map Design and Web
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19-6075	ERSC	4422/5422	Multiple Changes TABLED	GIS II
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19-6076	ERSC	4421/5421	Multiple Changes TABLED	GIS I
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- College of Business

19-6078	FINC	4383/5383	Multiple Changes TABLED	Applied Equity Analysis
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- **Report of the Policy and Personnel Committee**

- **Nominees for Graduate Faculty Affiliate Status:**

- Alexander Jaeger Bachelor's UA Little Rock DCEIT
TABLED

- The committee will review applicant again once they finish their Master's degree. Applicant is expected to receive their degree December 2019 and will begin teaching Spring 2020.

- Saquid Hussain Doctorate Texas A&M CALS
APPROVED

- Md Mahmudur Rahman Doctorate Morgan State DCEIT
APPROVED

Dean's Report

- HLC visit will be February 24 and 25. Mark those dates for availability if possible. Dr. Berry is trying to keep university governing bodies available. He will provide more information when he finds out more details.
- Quick discussion was held about website management.

- Make sure your department's learning outcomes and mission statement are on your website.
- Department members should be receiving information about updates from their Dean.
- When it comes to Evidence File Requests, try to get to those as soon as possible. If you get a request, please send it.
- Three insurance files have been done so far. They are due at the end of January. If not accredited, financial aid will become affected at the university.
- Dr. Berry spoke about Enrollment Applications.
 - Graduate School applications are down. There has been a significant decrease.
 - Starting to get enrollment reports. Details are being graphed and pipelined. Good news: more applicants that are applying, are getting in.
 - If anyone receives any student inquiries about their program, respond to them as soon as possible.
 - Currently, thinking about how to approach social media and email campaigns. Will begin picking certain projects to do specifics for.
- Dr. Berry apologized for the Capacity Recruiting Project being an issue. He just wanted to get an insightful view and didn't want programs to take on more students if they were already at max capacity. The project was intended for researching recruitment opportunities.
- Announcement was made about the Graduate School hiring an Associate Dean.
 - The position will be 50% for 9 months and full-time in the summer.
 - This will be an internal hire.
 - Currently, a committee is being put together for this process.

Open Forum

- The committee spoke about current enrollment issues. Please refer to the email correspondence document between Dr. Premeaux, Dana Steele, and Dr. Kuralt.
 - Many individuals start the application but don't finish it. Several factors can contribute to this, such as, money and collecting transcripts.
 - Under current policy, if a student is a low Undergrad, they cannot be admitted. A student can be admitted if they have a Grad degree.
 - Members spoke about current issues and how to go about potentially revising the current policy.
 - Some concerns expressed have to deal with how this can affect a student's overall Undergrad GPA. How it can inflate a GPA.

- Another issue is that some students owe money from other schools. This is why they do not submit those transcripts.
- Individual programs set their own guidelines. An example was provided about how the Nursing Program considers all past work completed by a student.
 - The thought is that without all transcripts being submitted, programs don't get the full picture of a student's potential based on their academic career.
- Members spoke about the difference between a student submitting official versus unofficial transcripts. Official transcripts come directly from the school. Unofficial transcripts can be tampered with and can reflect fraud information.
- Discussion was held about the importance of the last 60 hours completed by a student. Many classes will transfer, but not all will count.
 - Members questioned if it is necessary to see everything completed by a student. The concern about not showing all work completed could mean that the student is hiding work.
- The committee debated on if special circumstances should be made for students that have obtained a certain amount of hours. These standards could be set to reflect a student's GPA.
 - An example was shared about one transcript holding a student up.
 - The question everyone was left to ponder: Do we really want to or need to lose a student due to their transcripts?
 - Committee members continued discussing the importance or need to see all of a student's work. The general consensus was that this might be something that programs need to decide.
- Quickly reviewed the current Graduate School Admission Policy [509.3](#).

Meeting adjourned **3:40 p.m.**