

UA Little Rock Graduate Council
February 26, 2020 3:00 p.m.
Ottenheimer Library, Room 509

Minutes

Members Present:

Laura Ruhl, Karen Kuralt, Jerry Stevenson, T. Greg Barrett, John Nichols, Lynne Larsen, Roger Dorsey, Sung-Kwan Kim, Trisha Rhodes, Jim Grover, Natalie Snow, Bryce Jackson-Litteken, Qingfang He, Nicole Godfrey, Kamran Iqbal, Heidi Harris

Members Absent:

Gary Geissler, Nawab Ali, Adelene McClenny, Mengjun Xie, David Manry, Rebekah White, Donna Rose, Nancy Hamilton,

Others Present:

Paula Baker, Brian Berry, Karen Kuralt, Dana Steele, Ross Bradley

Meeting called to order at **3:03 p.m.**

Old Business

- Approved minutes from January 29, 2020 and February 12, 2020 meetings.

New Business

- **Report of the Curriculum Committee**
 - **College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences**

19-6075	ERSC TABLED	4422/5422	Multiple Changes
19-6076	ERSC TABLED	4421/5421	Multiple Changes
20-1115	FREN APPROVED	5362	New Dual-Listed
20-1114	FREN APPROVED	5361	New Dual-Listed

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20-1113 | HIST
APPROVED | | Admissions Requirement Change
(MA in Public History) |
| ○ College of Social Sciences and Communication | | | |
| 20-1009 | SOCI
APPROVED | 4376/5376 | Dual Listing |
| 20-1002 | SOCI
TABLED | 4332/5332 | Title Change |
| 20-1001 | SOCI
APPROVED | 4365/5365 | Dual Listing |
| 20-1000 | SOCI
APPROVED | 4302/5302 | New Course |
| ○ College of Education & Health Professions | | | |
| 20-1080 | CHPR/Exercise
Science
TABLED | | Program Change
(Inactivation of M.S. in Exercise Science) |
| 20-1110 | CHPR
APPROVED | | New Program
(Accelerated BS/MS) |
| 20-1109 | HHPS
TABLED | 7397 | New Course |
| ○ College of Business | | | |
| 17-6083 | ACCT
APPROVED | 5352 | New Course |
| 20-1024 | BUSAHR-CMBA
APPROVED | | Program Change
(Add elective courses to MBA concentration in
Human Resource Management) |
| ● Report of the Policy and Personnel Committee | | | |
| ○ Nominees for Graduate Faculty Affiliate Status: | | | |
| | ■ Kelly Moore
TABLED | Master's | UA Little Rock CEHP |
| | ■ David J. Namir
TABLED | Master's | UA Little Rock CEHP |
| ○ Nominees for Full Graduate Faculty Status: | | | |
| | ■ Jacqueline Burse
TABLED | Doctorate | UA Little Rock CEHP |

- Zachary Hagins Doctorate UA Little Rock CALS
APPROVED

Dean's Report

- **HLC Visit**

- HLC visit is over.
- Dr. Berry appreciates all of the open forum and discussion attendees.
- HLC visitors were happy with the engagements that took place.
- Overall, the forums were positive. This is a morale booster to the university.
- Concern about only one forum.
- There is a great appreciation of the evidence notated in the documents.
- Everything appears to be going well.

- **HLC Formal Response**

- The university should be getting a draft from the HLC visit in a couple of weeks.
- Draft will give the university a chance to address any errors of fact, but cannot address any areas of opinion.
- The official document will not be completed until the summer.

- **Enrollment Tracking**

- Fall applicants are down 3%.
- Domestic Students are up 8%.
- Graduate Students entering with a degree are up 26.5%.
- International Students are down 33%.
 - Some of the factors due to these percentages are beyond our control on campus. Example: economic issues.
- Will be working towards using Keystone to help target international students. This will help to get university information on websites.
- Waiver codes are being used to track students/applications.
- Dr. Berry would like to work on getting enrollment numbers up.
- New and different marketing strategies are being explored to raise numbers.

Open Forum

- **GSA Events**

- Natalie Snow has been working hard to revive the GSA Program on campus.
- First GSA event gave out 59 tickets
- There were new members at the last GSA meeting.
- Encourage students to join. This organization advocates on behalf of the well-being of Graduate students.
- Some upcoming events:
 - Lunch 'n Learn - CV vs Resume (March 4, 12PM-1PM)
 - Hosted by a panel of UA Little Rock faculty members, including Dr. Kuralt.

- Lunch 'n Learn Entering the Academic Workforce Event (March 5, 11AM-12PM)
 - Hosted by a panel of UA Little Rock faculty members.
 - All events have a Google Meet. All students need to do is notify GSA that they want to be added. This Google Meet is monitored so students can ask questions and participate.
 - Committee suggested that GSA looks into software that records the meetings/events so students can access them at a different time.
 - Working on an online video about the organization. Video is being edited and should be done soon.
- **HLC Concerns From Committee Members**
 - Committee members were concerned about how information will be ratified for and to administration. Concerned about the timeline aspect.
 - Notified that actions will take place in two phases.
 - Identification of programs and personnel decisions will take place in March.
 - Final approval will take place in May.
 - Policies everyone should read: [620.1](#), [405.59](#), and [405.4](#).
 - Knowing this content will help with comforting people.
 - Discussion about policy [405.1](#).
 - Decisions will not go into effect until the fall. Currently, there are some gray areas in the policy that are being discussed. There is work going on behind the scenes on how to ethically and legally address these areas. The silence is not an effort to not tell, but it is due to figuring out how to address these unanswered questions.
 - Dr. Berry understands the concerns of the committee members and acknowledges that this is going to be a painful and anxious time.
 - Concerns about losing new hires on tenure track were discussed. Individuals will be notified.
 - Speculations were addressed based on the lack of communication and comforting/words of reassurance.
 - On the positive spectrum of things, Dr. Berry commented that there are ways to look into the gray and find comfort. He reassures everyone that there will be an exit plan/strategy instead of just letting people go.
 - Questions were brought to attention about the communication process related to the aftermath of the HLC visit.
 - Currently, there is no process. There is a lot of vetting due to the words that need to be said.
 - The parties/faculty involved are trying to figure out how to deliver this news. They do not want to deliver it poorly.

- There is a fear of cutting some of the most promising and talented people at the university.
 - Dr. Berry thinks/hopes that UA Little Rock comes out as a healthier and better institution in the end. He hopes the outcomes will help the college in a positive way. Overall, he just wants the institution to thrive.
- **Student Research Expo**
 - Still looking for Undergraduate and Graduate students to apply and show at the showcase.
 - When: April 17, 2020
 - Time: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 - Encourage students to participate.
 - Explain that this is a life building experience. It gives students a chance to show what they are doing.
 - Projects/research do not have to be perfect.

Meeting adjourned at **3:59 p.m.**