

UA Little Rock Graduate Council
September 16, 2020, 3:00 p.m.
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Members Present:

Laura Ruhl, Jerry Stevenson, John Nichols, Lynne Larsen, Roger Dorsey, Sung-Kwan Kim, Trisha Rhodes, Natalie Snow, Nicole Godfrey, Heidi Harris, Nancy Hamilton, Chelsea Bradley, Kamran Iqbal, Mariya Khodakovskaya, Carolyn Turturro, Donna Rose

Members Absent:

Qingfang He, Gary Geissler, Jim Grover, T. Greg Barrett, David Manry

Others Present:

Paula Baker, Brian Berry, Karen Kuralt, Amanda Nolen

Meeting called to order at **3:00 p.m.** by Amanda Nolen, President of the Assembly and Faculty Senate.

Old Business

- Approved minutes from April 15, 2020 meeting.

New Business

- Elected Laura Ruhl as chair
- Elected Trisha Rhodes as chair of the Curriculum Sub-Committee
 - Jennifer Holtz
 - Lynne Larsen
 - Carolyn Turturro
 - Donna Rose
 - Heidi Harris
 - Roger Dorsey
- Elected Nancy Hamilton as chair of the Personnel/Policies Sub-Committee
 - Roger Dorsey
 - Natalie Snow
 - Chelsea Bradley
 - Jerry Stevenson
 - Sung-kwan Kim

- John Nichols
- Mariya Khodakovskaya

Graduate Council meetings will occur every other week. The last meeting will be on December 2nd.

Dean's Report

- Focus is on enrollment.
 - The university was down 17% last year.
 - To date the enrollment is at -6.8.
 - Enrollment has been stable in the past decade.
 - Students are taking more hours.
 - The university is getting grads graduated, but we need to work on refilling the pipeline.
 - Hitting social media hard for recruiting.
 - The Graduate School doesn't know the programs as well as the faculty in them.
 - Working on a recruitment workshop for coordinators (towards the end of September).
 - We want to help give you the tools/funding that you need for recruiting via social media.
 - We want to partner with Communications to make you in your program the best advocates.
 - The goal is to use the next 6 to 9 months to focus on recruiting and to get our numbers to sustainability.
- There is going to be some work with the Probation 509.15 Policy.
 - The goal is to resolve any of the challenges on keeping up with when and if a student is in good academic standing. The idea would be to work on simplifying the policy.
- There was discussion about the Prior Learning Assessment Policy.
 - Currently the policy is written for undergraduates.
 - The policy is tabled at the moment, which gives the council time to work on it.
 - The objective is to make sure you all get credit for the things that you do.
 - This policy will need to be addressed by the council, modifications should be made, and sent back to Amanda Nolen by October 16th to make the agenda of the next Faculty Senate meeting on October 30th.
- Discussion about the Sick and Parental Policy occurred.
 - Leave for graduate students will be addressed due to the pandemic.
- Spoke briefly about the colleges coming together and merging.
 - There are people coming together from several different colleges. You will all need to make sure you are all on the same page.

- The goal is to help weed out issues at that level when it comes to CCFs and other important documents. A meeting may potentially occur about this.
- Currently, there are no databases about the programs. The Graduate School doesn't know all the right answers to give to students that are asking about your programs. We need to get to know your programs better.
 - What students do you need/want?
 - Meetings are in the works this semester that can address this.
 - Recordings might be created to share with each other.
 - The Graduate School's mission is to promote you and your program.
 - Videos are a big deal and are highly supported on social media.
 - Training for recruiting is in the mix. The Graduate School wants to give you money for recruiting and to help provide the sources that you need.
 - Write a proposal. We will fund it. We want to help you.
 - We want to reach your best population.
 - We want to help you with campaigns.
 - We want to bring the right people to you. Taking this action helps us, helps you, and helps communication.

Open Forum

- There are no issues with finding students, but there are more students than we can take in some programs.
- Discussion about a Workload Policy draft occurred.
 - This policy was endorsed by the Faculty Senate in Spring 2016 and has been sitting ever since.

Meeting adjourned at **3:58 p.m.**