

UA Little Rock Graduate Council
September 30, 2020, 3:00 p.m.
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Members Present:

Laura Ruhl, John Nichols, Lynne Larsen, Sung-Kwan Kim, Trisha Rhodes, Natalie Snow, Nicole Godfrey, Nancy Hamilton, Chelsea Bradley, Kamran Iqbal, Mariya Khodakovskaya, Carolyn Turturro, Donna Rose, David Manry, Jennifer Holtz

Members Absent:

Qingfang He, Gary Geissler, Jim Grover, T. Greg Barrett, Jerry Stevenson, Roger Dorsey, Heidi Harris

Others Present:

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

Meeting called to order at **3:00 p.m.**

Old Business

- Approved minutes from September 16, 2020 meeting.

New Business

- **Report of the Curriculum Committee**
- **Report of the Policy and Personnel Committee**
 - **Nominees for Graduate Faculty Affiliate Status:**

Angela Dischinger APPROVED	Doctorate	Bryant School District	EIT
Sudhir Dixit APPROVED	Doctorate	Basic Internet Foundation	EIT
Hettie C. Schonfeldt APPROVED	Doctorate	University of Pretoria	EIT
Bingyi Zhong APPROVED	Doctorate	Walmart Inc.	EIT

William Parsley APPROVED	Doctorate	USAA Insurance	EIT
Markum Reed APPROVED	Doctorate	Henderson State University	EIT
Rajat Emmanuel Singh APPROVED	Doctorate	North Carolina State University / University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	DCSTEM
Byron L. Tate APPROVED	Master's	University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff / University of Arkansas at Little Rock / The Sheridan Headlight	CHASSE
Rohit Dhawan APPROVED	Doctorate	Amazon Web Services	DCSTEM
Philip Huff*** APPROVED	Master's	UA Little Rock	EIT

***Applicant originally applied for Full Status, but council voted to move applicant to Affiliate Status until they have finished their dissertation. The applicant will need to reapply for Full Status in the future.

○ **Nominees for Graduate Faculty Full Status:**

Ivan Rodrigues-Conde APPROVED	Doctorate	UA Little Rock	EIT
Kiel Thorlton APPROVED	Master's	UA Little Rock	CHASSE

Dean's Report

- Spoke briefly about the Grad Coordinator meeting last week.
 - Current issue: Students have been given the option of credit/no credit due to COVID-19. Students are not being able to transfer work into the university due to this.
 - Question: How to handle credits that are transferring during a pandemic?
 - Many universities didn't give students an option like UA Little Rock did.
 - A student cannot control a pandemic.
 - A student shouldn't be penalized.
 - We need to be flexible with students during these trying times. If the semester is during a pandemic, we should accept those transfer credits.
 - Issue: Certain licensures will not accept credits like this. It is fine for universities to accept, but this varies by accredited bodies.
 - Currently looking into programs that are having this problem.

Open Forum

- Discussed how to handle GFS applications that do not have a signature on them. Committee agreed to accept signatures in the form of electronic or from a response via an official email from the applicant's place of employment. All members agreed that adjustments need to be made due how hard it is to collect all of the signatures during a pandemic.
- The committee provided feedback on the following documents:
 - [CCF Group Test VERSION 1](#) and [Curriculum Change Form \(CCF\) updated 10_2019 \(1\)](#) documents.
 - Suggestion: make room in the signature box for someone to paste in their signature. Most offices are accepting image signatures.
- An email will be sent out to all of the council members that pertains to the Program/Coordinator Task Load and Higher Learning Assessment. The idea would be to review and bring thoughts and concerns to the next meeting. Members were asked to start thinking about this semester and to start putting together recommendations.
- Talked about the Program Changes Form
 - Members agree that there needs to be multiple changes to improve it.
 - Question was asked about filling out one form versus multiple forms.
 - Advice: Forms will depend on the change of the curricula. Some changes can be placed together on one form, but some requests require multiple forms.
 - Examples: Removing classes can be the same form. For classes that will no longer be taught, they will need to be deactivated via a Course Form.
 - Changes made now will go into the future catalog.

Committee members were asked to think about how hours could be changing and how they will need to make substitutions for students that are currently in the program.

- Concern about Graduate Council members serving on both committees. Worried about an overload. After discussion, the chair and members were fine with members that want to serve on both the Curriculum Subcommittee and the Personnel/Policy Subcommittee.

Meeting adjourned at **3:43 p.m.**