

UA Little Rock Graduate Council
February 24, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Members Present:

Laura Ruhl, John Nichols, Lynne Larsen, Chelsea Bradley, Sung-Kwan Kim, Nancy Hamilton, Heidi Harris, Kamran Iqbal, Robert Lytle, Jennifer Holtz, Donna Rose, Carolyn Turturro, Natalie Snow, Jerry Stevenson

Members Absent:

David Manry, Tracy Cook, Mariya Khodakovskaya, Roger Dorsey

Others Present:

Dana Steele, Paula Baker, Ross Bradley, Nicole Godfrey

Meeting called to order at **3:02 p.m.**

Welcome and Introductions

Old Business

- Approved minutes from February 10, 2021 meeting.

New Business

- **Report of the Curriculum Committee**

20-6032	ECED APPROVED	4200/5200	Multiple Changes
20-6060	ECED APPROVED	4330/5330	Multiple Changes
20-6061	ECED APPROVED	4340/5340	Multiple Changes
20-6062	ECED APPROVED	4310/5310	Multiple Changes
20-6064	ECED APPROVED	4100/5100	Multiple Changes

21-1004	M.A. Rehabilitation of the Blind APPROVED		Changes to Catalog Copy
21-1005	M.A. Counseling APPROVED		Multiple Changes
21-1003	ECED TABLED	4320/5320	Multiple Changes ***Late CCF. Subcommittee motions to approve pending Undergraduate Council approval.

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

Justin Zhan APPROVED	Doctorate	University of Arkansas	DCSTEM
Piroon Jenjaroenpun APPROVED	Doctorate	Mahidol University & UAMS	DCSTEM

- **Applications for Graduate Faculty Full Status:**

Dean's Report

- N/A

Open Forum

Meeting with the Director of International Students

- At the previous Graduate Council meeting the process for international students and international graduate assistants was brought up.
- Dr. Ruhl reached out to the director of the department. Currently, waiting to hear back from Tugrul Polat.
- The plan is for Dr. Polat to come to a future meeting to inform the committee about any issues or concerns.

Report from GSA

- The Graduate Student Association has three upcoming events.
 - Portfolio Webinar: How to build your portfolio with Dr. Harris on

March 16th.

- How to Interview: a workshop on non-academic job interviews on **April 1st.**
- Library Learning: how to research using library resources on **March 2nd. @ 6:00 P.M.** To attend this event, email GSA@ualr.edu.
- To learn more about upcoming GSA events, please visit <https://ualr.edu/gsa/events/>.
- The GSA organization is currently working on policy suggestions.
 - For instance, during these COVID-19 times there are no sick days for GAs or TAs. The organization is hoping to make a difference.

Brief Discussion About International Students

- Natalie Snow is the president of GSA, an active member serving on the Graduate Council, and an international student. She explained briefly some steps involved in the international student process.
 - Visas are issued through the international student department.
 - International students are either F1 or J1. Most students are F1.
 - International students are allowed to work at the university for up to 20 hours a week. During the summer or off during the school year, students are only allowed to work within the school.
 - Students take their social security paperwork to the social security office and are issued a card.
 - International students have an orientation that they attend.
 - These students must take all of their courses in person.
 - International students must be enrolled in 9 to 12 graduate hours to have a visa.
 - They are not allowed to take courses online.
 - Students can apply for an exemption, but it is typically only approved if it is their last semester.
 - Everything deals with homeland security. New homeland administration is trying to make things more inviting and welcoming to international students.
 - All paperwork is completed through the Office of International Student Services.

Meeting adjourned at **3:28 p.m.**