

**University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Graduate Council Minutes
September 11, 2013**

Members Present: Laura Smoller, Angela Hunter, Karen Kuralt, Roger Dorsey, David Dearman, Nancy Landrum, Kent Layton, Guoliang Huang, Daniel Berleant, Yupo Chan, Shaun Thomas, Matt Gifford, Marc Seigar, Brian Berry, Ibrahim Duyar, and Emily Davis.

Members Absent: Maureen James, Tara DeJohn, Lillie Wichinsky, and Karen Wheeler.

Others Present: Dana Steele, Paula Casey, and Johanna Miller Lewis.

Meeting called to order at 3:01 by Marc Seigar, chair.

Announcements:

- The provost will meet with the Graduate Council on Sep. 25 (correction from agenda).
- Representatives for the joint Graduate Council with UALR, UAMS, and UCA will be Laura Smoller, Yupo Chan, and Marc Seigar.

Minutes from August 28, 2013 were approved.

Old Business:

- Proposed restructuring response document discussed.
 - Suggestions for appendices made.
 - Response document will be sent out for an electronic vote.

New Business:

- **Curriculum committee:** nothing to report.
- **Personnel Committee:**

Recommendation for Affiliate Graduate Faculty Status:

Halil Bisgin	Doctorate	NCTR	ASCI
Deborah Bruick-Jones	Doctorate	Bryant Schools	EDLR
Nita Copeland	Masters	UALR Faculty	HSCI
Logan Hampton	Doctorate	UALR	EDLR
Damir Herman	Doctorate	Ayasdi, Inc.	IFSC
Wei Huang	Doctorate	Ohio U. Faculty	IFSC
Ming Li	Doctorate	Utah State	ASCI
Brad Patterson	Doctorate	Asst. VC	EDLR

Ali Makki Sagheer	Doctorate	U. Anbar	ASCI
Angela Sewall	Doctorate	UALR	EDLR

Motion passed by council.

- Graduate Faculty Status Policy Proposal: Layton reports that the following issues with the proposed document were voiced by faculty and chairs:
 - Too many layers of bureaucracy out of the control of chairs and deans making instructional assignments and hiring decisions.
 - Infrastructures not in place for detailed record keeping, periodic review, etc. for tracking the various levels of status.
 - GFS occurs after hiring; what if faculty hired for graduate teaching and/or program coordination, but turned down?
 - Process allows for too much control by senior faculty and possible conflicts of interest.
 - Process will likely deter, not facilitate, growth in graduate programs, studies, and research at UALR.
 - If proposed in its current state, Faculty Senate likely to significantly rework the document or just vote not to accept it.
 - If senior faculty in small graduate programs are rejected after years of teaching in a graduate program, does the program close temporarily, or for good? How is GFS tied to faculty employment in programs with grad-only courses, roles, and responsibilities?
 - Some faculty become defacto program coordinators because of small programs and limited faculty; what if they do not meet criteria? Will there be a grandfather-type clause for these situations?
 - Process for reappointment seems duplicative to annual review in many ways; why can't annual review outcomes/decisions be used to support periodic GFS decisions?
 - Full vs. doctoral status hints at elitist division.
 - Is the current document aligned with the new provost's vision and goals for UALR?
- The Council decides to leave the document as is. David Dearman moves to approve the proposal. The motion fails due to lack of a second.
- The document will be voted on at the Personal Committee.

- **Dean's Report:**
 - Sheena Brooks has accepted a recruiting position at the new Law School of the University of North Texas at Dallas, and the hiring freeze has halted the search for her replacement temporarily.
 - Dana Steele will assume oversight of Graduate Admissions office.
 - A temporary labor person has been hired to recruit at colleges.
 - Working on a simple, secure solution to the electronic admissions process with ImageNow (and ITS) to eliminate file sharing difficulties.
 - Looking forward to the 2014-15 catalog, Dean Casey wants each program to make sure their requirements still reflect what the program wants from its applicants.

- **Associate Dean's Report:** Dana will no longer be attending Graduate Council meetings; Emily Davis will now be taking minutes.

Meeting adjourned by Marc Seigar at 4:07.