

Graduate Council
April 20, 2015
226 University Hall
Meeting Minutes

Graduate Council Members Present:

Roger Anderson, David Bowers, Prosper Boyaka, Josh Coy, Holly Dabelko-Schoeny, Candice Feck, Amy Ferketich, Rob Greenbaum, Joanna Groden, John Walters

Graduate School Staff Present: Patrick Osmer, Scott Herness, Ann Salimbene, Susan Reeser (recorder)

A. Approval of Minutes

Professor Boyaka called the meeting to order and asked for a review of the minutes from the February 23, 2015, Graduate Council meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Curriculum Committee Reports and Actions

1. Associate Dean Herness introduced the proposal to change the delivery of Master of Social Work specialization within the Advanced Standing Alternative Program (ASAP) to include an online format. He said that Social Work was seeking this action to maintain national competitiveness in their programs. Dean Herness explained the review and vetting process for the proposal and answered questions. The proposal was approved by Graduate Council and will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.
2. Dean Herness reported that the Masters of Global Engineering Leadership (MGEL) online degree program is requesting that its specialization not appear on the transcript as originally requested. Council approved the proposal and it will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.
3. Dean Herness explained the proposal to create dual degree programs in the MA Public Affairs/MA Latin American Studies and the MPA Public Affairs/MA Latin American Studies. Students would uniquely pursue 18 credit hours of the MLA and 35 credit hours of the MA (or 37 credit hours of the MPA) with the remainder of the credit hours counting towards both degrees. Students will then graduate with two master's diplomas. The proposal satisfies the Graduate School's policies for dual degrees. The proposal was approved by Graduate Council and will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.
4. Dean Herness explained the proposal to update the name of the existing Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies program in Latino Studies to Latina/o Studies. He said that program is making some small, benign changes that were not converted properly during semester conversion and will more closely align the program with its electives. The proposal was approved by Graduate Council and will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for further processing.

B. Business

1. Assistant Dean Salimbene explained the changes being proposed to the current Adoptive Leave policy and said that the *Handbook* will be revised to make the childbirth/adoption leave policy for funded graduate students the same as that for faculty and staff, i.e., six weeks for one parent and three weeks for the other parent. Council members said that they appreciated the definitions which were helpful in identifying each of the entities. They asked that in the case of only one parent being a funded graduate student, that parent (adoptive mother or father) could receive up to six weeks of leave. Council also recommended that the wording be kept gender neutral to avoid confusion. Dean Salimbene will prepare another draft of the policy for a vote at the May 18 meeting.
2. Dean Osmer reported on the responses he received from Mark Shanda, divisional dean, Arts and Humanities, to a series of questions regarding the situation in Art Education and in the Arts Policy/Administration (AAEP) program whereby graduate teaching associates (GTAs) are being required to have 5 hrs. of the 20 hr. (50% FTE) work requirement be assigned to a faculty member or a service activity outside of the primary contractual job description. Dean Osmer said that the responses seemed reasonable and that the GTA workload was consistent with that in other programs. He also said that Art & Humanities was continuing its course audit review and was preparing a Survey Monkey questionnaire that will be sent to all GTAs who currently teach in the department asking questions relevant to their teaching experiences.

Mr. Coy said that Dean Shanda had not spoken to the students who made the complaints and is only basing the findings on generalities at the department level. Mr. Coy also said that the affected students are reluctant to come forward and make a formal complaint to the Graduate School due to fears of retaliation.

Council suggested several scenarios whereby the affected students might speak anonymously with Assistant Dean Salimbene, such as exit interviews or post-graduation grievance letters, so that the Graduate School can officially take the next steps in finding a solution. Mr. Coy said that he would present the suggested options to the students and will also send Dean Salimbene a copy of a GTA appointment letter. Dean Osmer will ask Dean Shanda for the outcome of the AAEP review by the end of the month.

3. Dean Osmer reported that after accepting the Graduate Council subcommittee's recommendation, he has informed Professor Cynthia Carnes, College of Pharmacy, that the graduate faculty status for Dr. Xiaoli Zhao, Pharmaceutical Studies, will be suspended effective immediately for at least one year. Professor Boyaka, chair of the subcommittee (Roger Anderson, Amy Ferketich, Joanna Groden, and Cheena Srinivasan), reported that the committee determined there was evidence of numerous and recurrent failures on the part of Dr. Zhao to adhere to the guidelines for animal use and care and to biosafety and control substances, and that the committee was in agreement with the College of Pharmacy to suspend the graduate faculty status of a faculty member. Dean Osmer said that Dr. Zhao has been informed about this action.

4. Dean Osmer reported that Provost Steinmetz said that until the state budget is decided there will be no decision about Graduate Associate stipend increases.

C. Announcements

1. Dean Osmer reported on the ongoing discussions taking place relative to the draft University Enrollment Plan. He said that the report shows that the overall combined increase in master's & Ph.D. enrollment for the university, based on college projections, shows there will be little enrollment fluctuation for the 2016-2021 time period. He said that the largest projected increases are in the Fisher College of Business, Engineering, and in Nursing. Arts & Sciences, the college with the largest graduate enrollment, expects enrollment to mostly stay flat with the exception of a slight increase (of about 240 students) due to the addition of several online masters' programs. However, Arts and Sciences on-campus enrollment is projected to decline equally by the same number.

Dean Osmer said that the enrollment projections for international students is mostly unknown, but he believes it will remain flat (approximately 2,500 students out of 10,500 total graduate enrollment) with the majority of students coming from China. He said the university must be well-positioned in the international arena to help keep international student enrollment at the same level.

2. Dean Osmer reported that he had presented the Environmental Sciences and Life Sciences Networks three-year self-study report to the provost, Program Council, and to the OAA leadership group in an effort to develop a plan for the future of the networks and funding for the IGP programs. Dean Osmer said that he will keep council informed about any priority or funding changes.
3. Dean Osmer reported that graduate programs have requested exceptions to the Graduate School's graduate faculty membership policy which states that only tenure-track and research-track faculty can advise both doctoral and master's student and that clinical faculty can advise master's students. He said that four council members, Roger Anderson, Amy Ferketich, Joanna Groden, Scott Herness, and Cheena Srinivasan, met to discuss who should be able to advise graduate students. Professor Groden said that the College of Medicine would like to expand the P-status eligibility to include clinical track faculty because, due to appointment changes in the College of Medicine, fewer physicians are being appointed to tenure track positions. Council felt that the local programs and colleges should be able to make the decision on who is eligible for P-status based on qualifications and the faculty member's commitment to performing all of the required responsibilities for this status. It was unclear however, how compliance with responsibilities could be confirmed. It was suggested that the policy may not need to be changed just clarified to ask programs to petition special cases of faculty who are not tenure-track. Dean Osmer said he will be scheduling a meeting with an OAA working group (David Manderscheid, Randy Smith, Carol Whitacre, and Kay Wolf) to further discuss the issue. He will report on the outcome at a future meeting.

4. Dean Osmer reported on several of his visits to international institutions who wish to develop dual degree collaborations or partnerships within the graduate programs at Ohio State. He said that the interest is there and that the opportunities are huge for Ohio State.

Dean Osmer asked Associate Dean Herness and Assistant Dean Salimbene to report on their recent visit to the China Gateway and to attend the opening ceremony of the Hong Kong Baptist University (Haimen) Institute of Science and Technology on April 17. The ceremony highlighted the first group of students pursuing dual Ph.D. degrees. Deans Herness and Salimbene also visited Wuhan University (Ohio State's sister school) to discuss the possibility of hosting a visiting staff member exchange program in the Graduate School at some future time much like has been done in the offices of Student Life, Admissions, and International Affairs.

Deans Herness and Salimbene each reported on the institutions they visited, their experiences, and the positive feelings each of the institutions have for Ohio State University and their interest and enthusiasm for collaborations.

6. Dean Osmer invited council to attend the Graduate School Awards Reception on April 21, Thompson Library 3-5 p.m. Graduate Associate and Teaching Award winners and Presidential Fellows will be individually recognized during the reception.
7. Dean Osmer also invited council to attend the April 24 Semester meeting for department chairs, graduate studies committee chairs, and graduate program coordinators scheduled at 8:30 a.m. in the Blackwell Ballrooms B&C.

E. Other

- Mr. Coy reported that the Council of Graduate Students has awarded Ann Salimbene the Larry M. Lewellyn Award for Distinguished Service for exceptional service to graduate students. Mr. Coy said that the award is rightfully deserved and long overdue.

Professor Boyaka adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.