Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 28, 2022
2:30 – 4:00 pm
250D University Hall

https://osu.zoom.us/j/94166027486?pwd=aDlwbm1FajRKaEM4Y3BZcURiUy8vdz09
(Meeting ID 941 6602 7486 – Password: 441846)

Graduate Council Members Present:
Heather Anderson, Colette Dollarhide, Danielle Fosler-Lussier, Jim Fuchs, Mark Hubbe, Thomas Kerler, Steve Lavender, Carolyn Sommerich, Jan Weisenberger, and Fengyuan Yang

Graduate School Staff: Anika Anthony, Alicia Bertone, Karin Jordan, Joan Lieb (recorder), and Matt Page

Review and approval of February 28, 2022 meeting minutes
A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes.

1) Curriculum Committee Reports – Anika Anthony

- Proposal to establish a Graduate Minor and 3A Graduate Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health in the College of Public Health and the College of Engineering

The Division of Environmental Health Sciences in the College of Public Health and the Department of Integrated Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering is proposing to develop a Graduate Minor and 3A Graduate Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health. The 15-credit hour minor will be for graduate degree-seeking students. The program will primarily, but not exclusively, target graduate engineering, environmental health science, environmental science, epidemiology, business, law, medical, and nursing students. The 15-credit hour stand-alone graduate certificate is designed to enhance the degree(s) students have already completed and contribute to filling relevant professional learning gaps. The College of Public Health and College of Engineering have approved this proposal and the GS/CAA subcommittee has recommended it for approval by Graduate Council.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the proposal. It was unanimously approved by the Graduate Council. Associate Dean Anika Anthony will forward it to the Council of Academic Affairs and ask the unit to look into tuition differentials.

- Proposal to revise the MA in Anthropology in the Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences
The Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences is proposing to revise the MA in Anthropology following self-assessment, feedback provided by external review, and faculty reflection. The Department is also proposing to suspend direct admission to the program and instead admit qualified students directly to the PhD program. Students accepted to the PhD program may choose to earn the MA once minimum degree requirements are met. The curriculum for the revised MA will align with revised PhD curriculum. The minimum credit hour requirement for the MA is 30 semester hours. As a part of this revision, the Department of Anthropology is also requesting to offer the MA as a non-thesis only program. The Department estimates that the proposed changes represent approximately 30% of the current curriculum. The College of Arts and Sciences has approved this proposal and the GS/CAA subcommittee has recommended it for approval by Graduate Council.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the proposal. It was unanimously approved by the Graduate Council. Associate Dean Anika Anthony will forward it to the Council of Academic Affairs.

• Proposal to revise the PhD in Anthropology in the Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences

The Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences is proposing to revise the PhD in Anthropology following self-assessment, feedback provided by external review, and faculty reflection. These changes focus on providing more training on research methods, adjusting coursework to better prepare students for careers inside and outside academia, and decreasing time to degree completion without compromising program quality. The proposed changes to the program represent a significant revision of the current program. The minimum credit hour requirement for the PhD is 80 semester hours. The Department estimates that the proposed changes represent approximately 39% of the current curriculum. The College of Arts and Sciences has approved this proposal and the GS/CAA subcommittee has recommended it for approval.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the proposal. It was unanimously approved by the Graduate Council. Associate Dean Anika Anthony will forward it to the Council of Academic Affairs.

• Proposal to revise the Educational Administration specialization in the EdD in Educational Studies in the Department of Educational Studies in the College of Education and Human Ecology

The Department is submitting a revision to the Specialization in Educational Administration in the EdD in Educational Studies to respond to stakeholder feedback and address emerging issues in K-12 school administration. The minimum required credit hours will remain at 81 semester hours total and 51 hours post-master’s. The proposed changes include changing the research methodology course requirement, replacing some program core requirement courses, removing the technology requirement, and moving courses to program electives. The estimated percentage change to the existing curriculum is 22%. The College of Education and Human Ecology has approved this proposal, and the GS/CAA subcommittee has recommended it for approval by Graduate Council.
A motion was made and seconded to vote on the proposal. It was unanimously approved by the Graduate Council. Associate Dean Anika Anthony will forward it to the Council of Academic Affairs.

- **Proposal to revise the *Epidemiology specialization in the MS in Public Health* in the College of Public Health**

  The College of Public Health is proposing to revise the Specialization in Epidemiology in the Master of Science in Public Health to address minor curricular changes within the specialization. The minor changes include removing a required course, PUBHEPI 7431: Epidemiology Methods, and replacing the credit hours from the removed course with three additional elective credit hours, along with additional elective course options. The minimum credit hours for the specialization will remain at 46 semester hours. These changes will not significantly change the current learning goals or assessment plan. The proposal has been approved by the College of Public Health, and the GS/CAA subcommittee has recommended it for approval.

2) Informational

- **Discussion of University wide expectations for “Fellowships” - Alicia Bertone**

  Dean Bertone led a conversation to identify the challenges programs face with GS fellowships. Specific concerns raised included tax withholding, part-time appointments, and questions about minimum stipends.

- **GradForms 2022 Enhancement Project – Alicia Bertone**

  Dean Bertone reported that the Office of Technical and Digital Innovation (OTDI) (fka OCIO) has initiated a revision to the GradForms product. Students and coordinators will be asked to participate in the development of the revision, which is still in the initial design stage. The ultimate goal is to simplify the process for the students and coordinators. Questions and/or comments should be directed to Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Matt Page.

- **New Initiatives of the University that will impact graduate students – international student location tracker – Alicia Bertone**

  [https://hrconnection.osu.edu/esc?id=sc_cat_item&sys_id=22657f1f1ba4b050e5eb4336b04bcb2a](https://hrconnection.osu.edu/esc?id=sc_cat_item&sys_id=22657f1f1ba4b050e5eb4336b04bcb2a)

  Dean Bertone shared that a location tracker is being built-out in OSU Connection to help better track where our graduate students are physically located. Brought on by the pandemic when international graduate students continued to engage and be a student at OSU from remote locations. This is an important step forward to ensure we know where the students are and ensure they are making progress toward their degree.
3) Topics From the Floor

- As it relates to our Academic Analytics database of outcomes, what access should be made available to what audiences? Several meetings have been held and varied opinions shared. Currently, programs have access to other OSU databases, and would like the ability to search for specific student information. It was clarified that information covered by FERPA will not be included. Recommendations lean toward credentialed access with identified administrators having the ability to look at the large database. Permitted access would include security levels, training, and credentialing.

- Tom Kerler asked about the university’s leverage to push back on the sanctions placed on numerous Chinese students who have not been permitted to return to the United States. Information can be found on the Federal Register link to Proclamation 10043 of May 29, 2020 regarding the “Suspension of Entry as Non-immigrants of Certain Students andResearchers from the People’s Republic of China” at [https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/04/2020-12217/suspension-of-entry-as-nonimmigrants-of-certain-students-and-researchers-from-the-peoples-republic](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/04/2020-12217/suspension-of-entry-as-nonimmigrants-of-certain-students-and-researchers-from-the-peoples-republic).

Dean Bertone reached out to Mark for a status update and inquire about the students currently or formerly being funded by foreign talent programs. It was recommended that Tom work with OHR to look at a gap year option or if the program pre-approved the course/s from an international university near the student for transfer.

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Matt Page, is the Graduate School’s resource if there are any students negatively affected by the Ukrainian/Russian conflict. There are circumstances in which we can offer flexibility on deadlines, provisional acceptances, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm