

**Graduate Council
February 29, 2016
226 University Hall
Meeting Minutes**

Graduate Council Members Present:

James DeWille, John Freudenstein, Rob Greenbaum, Andrea Grottoli, Michael Lisa, Laura Lisbon, Hajime Miyazaki, Guyomar Pillai, Suzanne Shoger, John Walters

Graduate School Staff Present: Scott Herness, Ann Salimbene, Kathleen Wallace, Susan Reeser (recorder)

A. Approval of Minutes

- Interim Dean Herness called the meeting to order and asked for a review of the minutes from the January 25, 2016, Graduate Council meeting. The minutes were approved.

B. Updates – Interim Dean Scott Herness

1. Reported on the successful outcome of the February 26 Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum that showcased graduate student research and enabled interactions amongst graduate students. He complimented Megan Fitze, vice president, Council of Graduate Students, for being an excellent facilitator and for orchestrating a very professional event even though it was difficult to get enough faculty judges. The Hayes Forum is a highlight of the year for the Council of Graduate Students and is sponsored by the Graduate School and the Office of Research.
2. Reported that the 2016 Assessment Conference, sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs, was held on Friday, February 12, and that he and the Graduate School Faculty Fellows, Amy Ferketich and Tom Mitchell, presented two sessions to programs on ways to identify what their students need to know and do at the end of their graduate study and how to ascertain if they achieved those goals. Dean Herness said that programs are very interested in the assessment process and have been scheduling meetings with Professors Ferketich and Mitchell to develop resources and templates to support their program efforts.
3. Reported that the Graduate School is finalizing its Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan for submission.

C. GS/CAA Combined Curriculum Subcommittee Reports and Actions

1. Dean Herness explained that the proposal for the Graduate Minor in Applied Clinical and Preclinical Research is comprised of four core courses in the Master of Applied Clinical and Preclinical Research program, with an option to complete one course in another health science college. He reported on the coursework options and credit hour requirements and said that the proposal has the full support of the deans in the College of Nursing and in the College of Pharmacy. The proposal was unanimously approved by Graduate Council.
2. Dean Herness reported on the proposal from the College of Education and Human Ecology Department of Human Sciences and the College of Public Health to create a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences. He explained the review and vetting process and the elective courses, credit hour requirements, and concurrences received from other college deans. The proposal was unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

3. Dean Herness explained that the proposal from the School of Communications to revise its Ph.D. program by providing initial guidance to new students, and to make it feasible for all students to complete the program requirements in four years by reducing the minimum credits to get the degree from 85 to 81. He reported on the coursework options and credit hour requirements and answered questions. The proposal was unanimously approved by Graduate Council.
4. Dean Herness reported on the proposal to change the clinical course schedule and course revisions in the Doctorate of Physical Therapy. The changes are being proposed to meet current accreditation requirements which state that the final clinical experience must come after all required didactic coursework is completed. The proposal was unanimously approved by Graduate Council.
5. Dean Herness described the proposal to add a new transcript designation for the Neonatal Clinical Nurse Specialist (NCNS) specialty track within the existing M.S. in Nursing program in the College of Nursing. The plan of study for the proposed NCNS specialty track is identical to the existing Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP) specialty except for the specific clinical courses taken in the final year of the M.S. in Nursing program. All other aspects of program delivery and evaluation will remain the same. The proposal was unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

D. Business

Dean Herness summarized council's review of the Graduate School's certificate policy and discussed the draft proposal to expand and standardize the policy to include stand-alone graduate certificate programs. Graduate certificate programs will provide students an opportunity to acquire competence in an area of specialization without the requirement that they must be concurrently enrolled in a master's or doctoral program.

Council reviewed the responses that were received from department and graduate studies committee chairs regarding the draft proposal and asked questions. For example, will the GRE exams be required for admission, who will identify and monitor the 50 percent unique hours, how will credit be applied toward the master's degree, and how graduation and the receipt of the diploma/certificate will be handled. Dean Herness said that most of these issues will be left up to the individual programs to determine when they begin developing the new certificate programs. Proposals for graduate certificates will be vetted through the Graduate School and will follow the same review process as that for developing a new degree program.

Dean Herness called for a vote on whether or not Ohio State University will offer stand-alone graduate certificate programs. Council voted unanimously, with one abstention, to approve stand-alone certificate programs. Dean Herness said that the draft proposal, FAQs, and the Graduate School *Handbook* Section 8.2 will be updated to include information about the new policy.

Dean Herness adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.