

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

April 27, 2020

The Graduate Council met at 10:00 AM in the Zoom meeting room. The members present: Broussard, Cai, Gai, Gaudin, Lenoir, Luffin, Lusk, Marchand, Massé (ex-officio), Page, Perry, Piro, Poirier, Sharkey, and Thibault.

Absent members: Adams, Chance, Daniel, de Queiroz, Francis, Erick, Husseneder, Lee, and Sanders

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Pojman asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes at the virtual meeting. Perry stated there was a duplicated sentence in Dean Land's discussion of the BLD proposal and an edit needed to be made in Audrey Maxwell's Graduate Faculty Activities. The minutes were discussed, the minutes were approved for approval by Gaudin, seconded by Broussard, and the minutes were accepted unopposed.

Academic Affairs Report

No report.

Interim Vice President's Report

- Massé stated that the search for interim vice president candidates were interviewed via Skype and candidates will be invited or contacted before Commencement. She encouraged everyone to go and participate in these meetings.
- Massé also reported the interim vice president will be selected soon. There will be at least one year of transition with Radius and Audrey still available.
- Massé has had several discussions with the Assistantships and Graduate Faculty Status needing a better coordinated or more centralized system. An interim vice president will be responsible for the creation of a Student Employment Council for the student body.
- The third student health insurance meeting was held and the meeting for the year is almost complete. There are two main options:
 - Option 1: includes undergraduate, graduate, and international students together.
 - Option 2: includes undergraduate, graduate, and international students fees separately.The second is significantly more expensive for graduate students. Adjustments to them will be made to have both options. There is a significant increase in option 1, which Massé suggested that the interim vice president should consider the retention of the current coverage in the interim.

Chair's Report

Pojman thanked Broussard for chairing the past few meetings in his absence. D. J. Gansle and Massé noted that nominations for the position of next year's President and Vice President must be submitted before the final meeting of the semester.

New Business

Instructional Coach Admission Waiver

- Margaret Mary Sullivan Dowell from the School of Education asked to be notified about the request to waive the GRE requirement for the Instructional Coaching Certificate. In lieu of the GRE, they were proposing to look at U.S. university transcripts and their undergraduate degree program and two letters of recommendation. Dowell asked how they measure their performance within the field and in spite of how diverse they are and how recently the students come out of undergraduate program. Dowell replied that this is an alternative certification program, so it varies.
- Pojman thanked Dowell for coming. Lockridge made a motion to approve, 2 to 0. Gansle seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Master's of Landscape Architecture Program CIP Code Change Request

- Massé read the request submitted by Anthony Adams, David Selden and Sarah J. Broussard. Massé explained what CIP code changes are and stated that changing this code would help bring in more students and make it easier for international students to stay in the country.
- Gansle made a motion to approve in Indian seconded. The motion passed unopposed.

Graduate Biomedical & Veterinary Medical Sciences Program CIP Code Request

- Broussard read the request submitted by the same group.
- Lockridge made a motion to approve, Gansle seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Curriculum Change: Graduate Minor in Coastal Meteorology

- Robert Rohli from the College of Coast and Environment provided a brief summary of what this minor is and why it is important to have an option available to students in the option. Rohli stated the curriculum can be restricted to either students to have a total of eight learning objectives over a life and career span.
- Marchand asked if the courses are new and if the current staff can cover new course load. Rohli replied that one required course is taught online. The other courses are taught by current faculty members.
- Marchand made a motion to approve, Gansle seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Old Business

Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Embargo Period

- Lockridge spoke to fellow Council members about the university's recommendations. There are two different types of embargoes: a temporary embargo and a permanent embargo. She stated that authors have a copyright in their work. If the university/students are trying to preserve the confidentiality of their projects, it is their right to enhance the value of the copyright to the students, including the likelihood of them publishing it for royalties with a publisher. On the patent side, when these are published, the ability to obtain a patent is destroyed. Lockridge believes that some amount of an embargo to protect the interests of those who think they will monetize their copyrights is appropriate, but it is difficult for her to say it should be permanent.
- Marchand asked what argument could be made against making a permanent embargo to which Massé responded with the central issues: academic misconduct and whether the choice should be made by the individual author or on behalf of an entire cohort. Lane reiterated that the current options for embargoes are one to seven years. Several council members discussed various aspects of a possible permanent embargo. Kronick, Chair of the English Department, stated that the concern of faculty and MFA students is to protect their copyrights and their careers as professional writers. He has reached out to other creative writing programs who state that best practice is a permanent embargo and most schools do not like temporary embargoes.
- Council members continued discussions about theses and dissertations being available electronically. Lane stated BJ Rice, IT Analyst in the Graduate School, would be able to better answer these questions and provide insight on how he would be particular considering the software. Lockridge mentioned to table the discussion until the next meeting. Pit-coil received a unanimous motion to pass curricular changes. The motion was passed at the final meeting of the semester.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Graduate Council Web Page** – Chelsey Hutchins, the Communications G.A. at the Graduate School, and Liaison for the Impressions group, a student organization at Manship School that has access to the Council website, presented a working group. She stated that data was collected from graduate students and faculty via an electronic survey. Some of the recommendations to the Council are to create a Council website, a weekly or monthly newsletter, and updates via social media. The Impressions expressed interest in having the Council as a link to their website.
- **Promotion/Tenure** - Chance: No Report.
- **Awards** - Page: No Report.
- **Graduate Faculty** - de Quincey: No Report.
- **Bylaws** - Massé: No Report.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 10, 2018 from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm in 135 Thomas Boyd Hall

Meeting Adjourned: 10:56 am.

