

## **Minutes of November 12, 2018**

Pojman asked if there were any corrections or objections to the November meeting minutes. Gansle made a motion to approve the minutes, Francis seconded.

Richardson and Wicks gave a brief synopsis of various sessions they were able to attend while there.

- LSU Graduate Catalog
  - The Graduate School is currently reviewing the requirement of the number of instructional hours and the number of credit hours accepted from international universities.
- Meeting with Vice Provost Cassidy about Graduate Faculty requirements for AgCenter and Pennington faculty members on the main campus. Richardson stated Vice Provost Cassidy is at the beginning stages of simplifying the process on the main campus and would have feedback at a later date.

## **Academic Affairs' Report**

- No report.

## **New Business**

### **Curriculum Change: PhD in Mechanical & Industrial Engineering**

- Sunggook Park, the Mechanical & Industrial Engineering (MIE) Graduate Advisor, spoke to Graduate Council members and the proposed curriculum change. MIE faculty members recently evaluated the effectiveness of their current policy of Ph.D. students being required to take 42 credit hour coursework (not S/U graded coursework) and 12 hours of dissertation research beyond their B.S. degree, with the maximum number of 24 credit hours is allowed to transfer from the student's MS degree.

- The main issue with the current policy is the department is currently not offering many graduate level courses, and many students are having trouble finding appropriate courses that help fundamental understanding of core engineering principles in students' researches. The increased undergraduate enrollment in the MIE department as well as in the College of Engineering is partially the reason for the problem. This problem prevails for all students. On the other hand, it affects more those students who received MS degrees in the MIE department. They have already taken more core courses and courses related to their research during their MS programs.
- The MIE faculty believes the solution to this problem is to reduce the number of core courses and to reduce the number of dissertation research credit requirement from 12 to 8 so that the total number of required credit hour remains unchanged at 34.
- At the same time, the MIE faculty voted for reducing the maximum number of credit hours that are allowed to transfer from students' previous degrees courses to 18 from 24 so that students who received their BS degrees from other universities can have a similar non-severe challenge in understanding engineering principles.
- Park stated that the faculty is aware of the fact that the reduction of the number of courses for Masters should be supported by the department. There will be more for the students' benefit.
- Various members expressed some uncertainty about the rationale provided to justify the changes. It appears to be more of an issue of a lack of personnel to teach courses.
- Perry recommended the justification be revised to answer the following questions. Council members:
  - Are the proposed curriculum changes fulfilling SACSCOC requirements?
  - How are other departments in the College of Engineering addressing any challenges caused by the new faculty to students?
  - Are Engineering Departments at peer institutions having similar challenges? If so, how are working to resolve the issue?
  - Has the department requested additional faculty members? If so, please provide the rationale given for the denial?
- Gansle motioned to table the discussion until additional information, including the revised justification, is received. The motion was seconded and the proposal passed unanimously.

### Curriculum Change: Request to Add Graduate Minor: Writing Pedagogy

- Jacqueline Bach from the Education addressed members of the Council to discuss the benefits of the minor. The graduate writing pedagogy minor will focus on the

necessary skills, strategies, and critical thinking abilities needed to think effectively. Each stated the current version of the proposal includes suggestions for the Faculty Senate from a variety of faculty members.

- Change moves from the previous version of the proposal with the following:

### **GRE Scores for Entering Graduate Students**

- Carol Wicks and Julie Gansle clarified the role of departments in setting requirements and the university's role in setting work experience requirements. Departments have not been set for a long time and this is a new proposal. The admission requirements of other SEC schools are also being reviewed.
- Members of the Faculty Senate are being asked to provide input on the statement, Change accepted and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

#### **Proposed Revision Require Participation in a Workshop**

- Malcolm Richardson stated that this was a clarification of the existing policy that includes the proposal, the Faculty Senate will be reviewing the proposal.
- Gansle suggested adding the phrase "the Dean of the College" to the policy who would review emergency requests considered on an ad hoc basis.
- Change motion to approve the proposal, motion passed unanimously.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

- **Promotion & Tenure - Change:** The committee is working to review P&T and Change and Gansle met with the Associate Professors Network to discuss the P&T process.
- **Awards - Change:** The committee is working to review the awards process.
- **Authorship of Publications:** The committee is working to review the authorship and statements from different associations. A document created by the Graduate Student will be reviewed by the committee. The committee will be reviewing the materials submitted by the members of the committee.
- **Graduate Faculty - de Queiroz:** No report.
- **Graduate Council:** No report.

**Meeting Adjourns 10:53 am**

**Next Meeting: TBA**

Recorded by: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointed by: \_\_\_\_\_

*Rodriguez*

Rodriguez

Assist: