Graduate Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2024 10:30am-noon
Memorial Union N204

Attending: Gillian Barlett, David Beversdorf, Matt Easter, Dan Edidin, Maria Fidalgo, Keith Greenwood, Jeni Hart, John Kerns, Paul Ladehoff, Leslie Lyons, Julie Miller, Marcello Mogetta, Azlin Mustapha, Abed Rabbani, Amy Rhea, Enid Schatz, Chi-Ren Shyu, Ashley Siebenaler, Jeff Wood, Angie Zapata, Yuwen Zhang, Delinda Van Garderen

Quorum (12): Met

1. Call to order at 10:35am by Greenwood.
2. Acceptance of the agenda
   a. Amendments: None
   b. Disposition: Agenda accepted
3. Approval of minutes of November 2023 meeting
   a. Amendments: None
   b. Motion to approve by Ladehoff, seconded by Zapata
   c. Disposition: Approved unanimously
4. Committee Reports:
   a. Academic Affairs – Prof. Angie Zapata, chair
      i. Course Approvals – changes to existing (edited) and new (added) courses (List of courses distributed separately)
         a. Recommendation to approve comes from committee, no need for a second
         b. Discussion: None
         c. Disposition: Approved unanimously
      ii. Program Approvals and Program Change (edited) Proposals
         a. EdSp in Learning Technologies and Design with Emphasis in Online Education
            • Recommendation to approve comes from committee, no need for a second
            • Discussion: Minor edit to EdSp degree, administrative change to correct required courses which were incorrect in CIM.
            • Motion to approve by Bartlett, seconded by Fidalgo
            • Disposition: Approved unanimously
         b. Graduate Certificate in Special Education Administration (new program) – Presentation by Dr. Delinda Van Garderen
            • Discussion: No new courses in this graduate certificate, will require 2 from SPED
and 2 from ELPA. This will “unbury” the ELPA courses but not replace the ELPA emphasis in special education. The audience for his GC is current or aspiring administrators, the vast majority of whom are currently already working full-time in education. The practicum for this GC will include real world experiences and human interaction at their place of work. The GC could be a standalone credential or part of larger degree and adds weight and credibility to the coursework taken.

- Motion to suspend the accepted practice of waiting until next meeting to vote on new program was made, seconded, and approved.
- Motion to approve the program was made by Shyu and seconded.
- Disposition: Approved unanimously

b. Awards – Marcello Mogetta, chair

i. No current business. Next important date is Feb 16 which is the deadline for some GFS-reviewed awards including the Anderson TA/RA award and others. Internal deadline for awards committee is in March so that by April 1 there are official winners who can be notified to attend awards ceremony in late April.

c. Policy – Prof. Chi-Ren Shyu, chair

i. “Restart Program” policy – a policy is in place but the Graduate School needs insight in order to implement it. Currently any program can be restarted and the courses (as approved by the department) can transfer back into the restarted program. A student is eligible to restart the program despite GPA restrictions that would otherwise prohibit admission to the program (however there are loan-repayment implications regarding GPA that need to be considered) and there is a requirement that the faculty advisor (who is usually the thesis/dissertation supervisor) meet regularly with the student.

ii. “Graduate Student Academic Standing” – Currently the Graduate School has three levels of standing: good standing, probation, and dismissal. These are based solely on GPA. The proposal under consideration is a GFS policy requirement that each department or college have a program standing requirement that protects both the department and the student in questions of performance toward degree and should be included in the handbook.

iii. “Assistantships and Working On Break” – According to Dean Hart, GRAs and GTAs are academic appointments, the same as instructors and postdocs. The appointments are for when class is in session at 0.5 FTE = 20 hours/week. The question about expectations for GTAs and GRAs on school breaks and especially at the beginning and end of the semester is definitely a GFS decision and should be addressed promptly.

iv. “Mentoring Training Requirements” – Mentoring training should be applied at
evaluation, and is best made as a resolution and not a policy, and should be run by
Faculty Council because this would constitute a faculty workload issue.

5. Report: Graduate Professional Council – Mr. Parker Owens, GPC Representative
   a. No report.

6. Report: Graduate School – Prof. Jeni Hart, Dean of Graduate School and Vice Provost
   for Graduate Studies
   a. MyVita is open. Advisor/supervisor verification spreadsheets have been sent to
departments for validation. If advisor and supervisor are the same person
(meaning a committee chair is also the supervisor for an assistantship) then both
the performance review and the academic review can be done at the same time.
Note that if there is a discrepancy between what myVita has listed as advisor or
supervisor and who is actually the advisor or supervisor, then the wrong person
will get the notification to complete and there will be delays in the process of
completing the reviews.
   b. Seven courses were deactivated because the program was no longer granting that
level of degree and/or accreditation updates rendered them obsolete. These
deactivations shouldn’t affect anyone.
   c. Fellowship reviews are upcoming – Enid Schatz is spearheading this effort.
   d. GPC Research and Creative Arts Forum is partnering with Show Me Research to
consolidate efforts.
   e. Jeni is on the Provost search committee so please send your feedback on the
   process to her.

7. Old Business
   a. None

8. New Business
   a. None

9. Resolutions
   a. Resolutions Proposed: None

10. Announcements
    a. None

11. Adjournment
    a. Motion to adjourn by Beversdorf.
    b. Meeting adjourned at 11:45am.