Graduate Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes



February 27, 2024 10:30am-noon N204 Memorial Union

Attending: Amy Rhea (staff support), Leslie Lyons, Keith Greenwood, Ashley Siebenaler, Maria Fidalgo, Chi-Ren Shyu, John Kerns, Paul Ladehoff, Julie Miller, Matt Easter, Danielle Easter (for Erin Robinson), Gillian Bartlett, Zezong Gu (for David Beversdorf), Yuwen Zhang, Marcello Mogetta, Jeni Hart, Dan Edidin, Jeff Wood, Abed Rabbani, Azlin Mustapha

Quorum: Met

- 1. Call to order at 10:30am by Keith Greenwood
- 2. Acceptance of the agenda
 - a. No amendments
 - b. Accepted unanimously
- 3. Approval of minutes of January 2024 meeting
 - a. No amendments
 - b. No discussion
 - c. Motion to approve by Lyons, seconded by Shyu
 - d. Approved unanimously
- 4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Academic Affairs Prof. Angie Zapata, chair (report by Keith Greenwood)
 - i. Course Approvals changes to existing (26 edited) and new (11 added) courses (List of courses distributed separately)
 - a. Committee recommendation; no need for motion from the floor
 - b. No discussion
 - c. Approved unanimously
 - ii. Program Approvals and Program Change (edited) Proposals
 - a. Graduate Certificate in Recreation and Sport Administration (new program), presented by Dr. Dana Massengale
 - This program targets an existing local audience with interest in continuing education so that they can advance in their existing careers. It may also entice people toward the master's program. All courses are existing; no new courses are planned for this GC. Most coursework can be completed online. The department anticipates a slow start but building to a cohort of 20-30 students in the program. Would like to begin Fall 2024.
 - Senate will vote on disposition of this proposal at the March

2024 meeting.

- b. MEd in Learning, Teaching and Curriculum with Emphasis in English Education Certification, presented by Dr. Michael Metz
 - There is a similar UG emphasis already in the department, so this GC is designed to mirror that offering. There are existing emphases in math and science already in place and one for social studies coming up for approval in a couple of months. This GC would prepare the student for teacher certification by the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The intended audience is teachers who are teaching on provisional and emergency certificates but who are already in the classroom and need to get certifications upgraded. Usually DESE certification happens after an undergraduate credential is awarded, but with the teacher shortage, we're seeing people with content area knowledge who don't have the "teaching methods" knowledge and this GC would fill that knowledge gap. The DESE certification would translate to some out-of-state entities as DESE has reciprocal license agreements with some neighboring states. But this is really for Missouri-based students. All courses are existing; no new courses are planned. It is possible to take the GC courses part-time if they're working full-time, but most courses are offered once a year rather than once a semester.
 - Senate will vote on disposition of this proposal at the March 2024 meeting.
- b. Awards Marcello Mogetta, chair
 - i. 12 Anderson Teaching apps and 9 Anderson Research apps under review with an internal deadline of March 15 to complete reviews.
 - ii. Final adjudication will occur on March 20 at awards committee meeting.
- c. Policy Prof. Chi-Ren Shyu, chair
 - i. Graduate Restart Program ready for final approval of language
 - a. The committee requires a new GPA notification in MyZou so that the DGS will have a way to calculate the GPA manually when the restart occurs.
 - b. The committee agrees to change the mentoring verbiage to 'meet regularly' to allow flexibility based on program needs, because it didn't want to set the bar too low (i.e., didn't want to set a minimum and that end up becoming the maximum)
 - c. Committee recommends adopting the policy, no need for motion from the floor

- d. No additional discussion
- e. Approved unanimously
- ii. Academic Standing for Graduate Students ready for final approval of language
 - a. Regarding academic standing, the Graduate School policy is based solely on GPA (academic good standing, academic probation, dismissal)
 - b. Each college/program is being asked to develop their own policy for what departmental probation would look like (adherence to professional code of ethics, satisfactory progress toward degree, other aspects beyond GPA) and to formalize their policy so its transparent and enforceable
 - c. There was a recommendation to wordsmith the proposed text a little. The Grad School doesn't enforce dismissals unless there's a GPA issue but departments clearly need to be in the loop with it at their own level.
 - d. Policies should be at department level rather than at the program level.
 - e. GFS sets timeline for qualifying exams and comprehensive exams, but department can define what student can do to clear up any probation that their department has issued even if quals/comps are involved.
 - f. GTA/GRA employment (employment) and academic progress (academic) are separate roles, even though they are interrelated, and therefore need to be dealt with through separate processes.
 - g. GFS is saying departments need to have clear a policy and that it is the responsibility of the departments to communicate that policy to students (preferably through the department's handbook so that other policies and procedures are also communicated)
 - h. The consensus of GFS is that the policy committee will do some reworking and come back next month.
- iii. Mentoring Training Policy still in discussion in committee (want to focus on new and renewing doctoral faculty)
 - a. The policy that would begin in Fall 2024 would require doctoral faculty to have mentoring training. CIMER has been recognized by NIH and other grantmaking entities as appropriate.
 - b. The GFS policy would require junior faculty who just joined the university to take training, and for intermediate fac they don't need to go through the new-faculty program provided but rather take 2 hours of training from CIMER. The doctoral faculty renewal process would also incorporate CIMER training in order to be renewed.
 - c. The need for this policy is coming from issues seen in the Graduate School office, the Department Chairs' offices, and at the College level.
 - d. Questions to ponder: Do the options to orient junior faculty and also enhance existing doctoral faculty? Do graduate students not know they can

- go to other committee members for advice/help?
- e. Suggestion: Don't restrict grad status but instead say that within a certain time period of beginning at the University you should have the training, or else tie it to doctoral faculty status. The idea here is to incentivize not punish.
- f. Consensus og GFS is for the policy committee to go back to the drawing board, incorporate feedback, and return next month to report in.
- 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. No report
- 7. Old Business
 - a. None
- 8. New Business
 - a. None
- 9. Resolutions
 - a. None
- 10. Announcements
 - a. The April meeting is our leadership election for next year, so reach out to current committee chairs if interested in joining and let John Kerns (GFS vice president) know if you're interested in being considered for an officer position.
- 11. Adjournment at 11:58pm by Keith Greenwood