Meeting Minutes  
Graduate Studies Committee  
Tuesday, February 17, 2015 3:00-4:30pm

Meeting Called to order at 3:05pm

Members Present: Jennifer Schwartz, Jonathan Yoder, Sue Marsh, Ted Chauvin, Tom Salsbury, Babu John Mariadoss, Chandra Murali, E. Lincoln James, Kenn Daratha, Akram Hossain, Linda Frederiksen  
Faculty Committee Members Absent: Aurora Clark  
Student Committee Members Present: Chris Campbell, Megan Slaker  
Student Committee Members Absent: Adrian Valerie  
Graduate School members: Ana Rarig, Lori Carris

Action Items
2.3.2015 Meeting Minutes Approved

Course Review

- ENVIR SCI 510: Minor changes were recommended by reviewers. Moved to approve. Seconded. – APPROVED
- BIOLOGY: 594, 595, 596 - TABLED
  - Dr. Salsbury sent a message to Dr. Storfer regarding BIOLOGY 594, 595, 596. The department has not yet responded.
- PLP 512: Topics in Plant Pathology (new course). The course is designed to address new research. One issue with the justification about who might teach the course. It was not clear if the instructor would have graduate faculty status. The second issue was that it is offered for variable credits 1-3, what not clear how the course load would change based on the credits (and explicit grading criteria). Recommended that the department makes some revisions. – TABLED
- NURSING: 535, 536, 596 – TABLED
  - Linda, Murali, Mark, and Kenn met to discuss upcoming nursing courses. The discussion centered on the way nursing fairly accounts for credit. Courses are delivered in a hybrid delivery model. Academic rule 27 defines the definition of a credit hour: lecture course; laboratory; studio; and ensemble. The minimum time commitment for independent study is three hours week per credit hour. GSC asked CON to state that for every hour of faculty-directed activities at least 2 hours of study are required by the student.
  - NURS 535: Reviewers continue to work with CON faculty on this course to serve as a template for further CON syllabi.
  - We would like the syllabus to clearly indicate instructor directed activities for 45 hours-then there would be an expectation that the students would complete 90 hours of preparation.
  - NURS 596: Concerns about credit hours, and contact hours.
- ANTH 522: Culture and Mind, Dr. Hossain brought this back to the department. We are waiting for the second review. – Ana will follow up with a secondary reviewer – TABLED
- BIOLOGY 571: Quantitative Toolkit for Biologists. Minor issue with attendance. After 2 unexcused absences a student would lose 5% of their grade (to a maximum of 20%). Moved to approve. Seconded. – APPROVED
• ETOM/ ENVIR SCI 460-560: Major concerns about the overall number of conjoint courses in these disciplinary areas. Further concern about the course being dominated by undergraduate enrollment, including pre-requisite courses at the 100 level. The proposal seems to be an undergraduate level course- with an added graduate enrollment. The reviewers have concluded this course does not contribute favorably to the graduate student experience. Based on the proposal this course does not seem to be at the graduate level. Dr. Marsh notify the submitting department. Suggestion that GSC makes a formal suggestion to the GS that there has been an issue raised about how the majority of the courses in this program (ENVIR SCI) are conjoint listed – TABLED

• CHE 485/ 585: Interfacial Phenomena. Revise description to add new undergraduate conjoint course (John Mariadoss)- TABLED

• EE CPT 539, EM 521, EM 523, EM 524, EM 535, EM 578, pending the approval of the Dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture- TABLED

• NURS 585- TABLED

Program Review

• Department of Mechanical Engineering: revise Graduation requirements for the Master of Science in mechanical engineering (Thesis, and Non-Thesis). Essentially the department has aligned their policies about 400-level courses with the Graduate School’s requirements. Also they are not accepting 300- level work for graduate studies. Moved to approve. Seconded. - APPROVED

• Department of Mechanical Engineering: Revise graduation requirements for the PhD in Mechanical Engineering. – APPROVED

Certificate Review

• Department of ELSECP: Applied Social Science Research Methods. Concerns about the certificate title. The committee recommends that the department find a more suitable name because “Social Sciences” title is problematic. Need to confirm a new name for this certificate, and that the courses are in existence. – TABLED

• C-NSPIRE certificate. Moved to approved. Seconded. – APPROVED

• New Certificate in Facilities Management and a Specialization in Construction Management (Yoder and Schwartz)- pending the approval of the Dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture TABLED

Bylaws

• Department of Teaching and Learning CSSTE. Moved to approve. Seconded - APPROVED

• Department of Teaching and Learning: English Language Learners Master’s Program. Some suggestions were sent back to the creators of the bylaws. Motion to approve. Seconded. - APPROVED

• Department of Teaching and Learning: Literacy Education Master’s Program (MA, EdM). One minor concern about what constitutes a quorum. – TABLED

• Department of Teaching and Learning: Language, Literacy, and Technology Doctoral Program (PhD). Moved to approve. Seconded. – APPROVED
• Department of Teaching and Learning: Mathematics and Science Education (PhD). Moved to approve. Seconded. – APPROVED
• Department of Teaching and Learning: Special Education Program (PhD, MA, EdM). Moved to approve. Seconded. – APPROVED
• College of Education: Master’s in Teaching (MIT). Chandra has minor recommendations for the department- TABLED
• College of Communication Bylaws- TABLED
• School of Molecular BioSciences: MS/PhD in Molecular BioSciences (Daratha and Adrian)- No updated materials received - TABLED
• Department of ECLP: Sport Management (Chandra and Campbell)-No updated materials received - TABLED

Discussion Items
Reviews due and scheduled for vote on next GSC meeting, Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Course Review
• ENGR 530 – Interdisciplinary Research and Design I; new course (Clark, Salsbury)- Student Learning Outcomes
• ENVIR SCI 523 – Environmental and Internal Dosimetry; new course (James, Slaker)
• FS 515 – Food Fermentations – Microbiology and Technology (new course, UI Co-Op), (Hossain, Schwartz)
• TCH LRN 463/563 – Teaching Concepts of Probability and Statistics; new conjoint course- (Schwartz, Adrian) - 9 conjoint questions

Program Review
• Biology – Change name of degree from MS in Botany to MS in Plant Biology- (John Mariadoss, James)
• Biology – Change name of degree from PhD in Botany to PhD in Plant Biology- (John Mariadoss, James)
• Zoology – Change name of degree from MS in Zoology to MS in Biology- (Yoder, Chandra)
• Zoology – Change name of degree from PhD in Zoology to PhD in Biology- (Yoder, Chandra)
• Nursing – Revise graduation requirements of PhD in Nursing Program: decrease core from 56 credits to 34 credits- (Chauvin, Marsh)

Bylaw Review
• Department of Teaching and Learning: Curriculum and Instruction Specialization Bylaws- (Hossain, John Mariadoss)

Meeting adjourned at 4:43pm

Next GSC Meeting Tuesday, March 3, 2015 from 3:00-4:30pm