University Graduate Council Minutes

Tuesday, September 17, 2013   3:00 pm   Sherrick 114

In Attendance:
Yves Idzerda (Sciences – College of L&S)   William Ruff (EHHD)
Anne Christensen (College of Business)    Jean Shreffler-Grant (College of Nursing)
Alan Dyer (College of Agriculture)    Donna Williams (College of Nursing)
Josh DeWeese (College of Arts & Arch.)   Laura Collins (Graduate School)
Melis Edwards (Graduate School)     Randy Babbitt (Physics)
Kathryn Plymesser (CoE Graduate Students)   Lisa Brown (Extended University)
Donna Negaard (Graduate School)    Amanda Brown (Graduate School)
Helen Melland (College of Nursing)   Ronald Larsen (Interim Dean – Graduate School)

Absent:

• Meeting started at 3:05pm
• CH: Yves Idzerda

• March minutes approved

• No comments from campus

• Chair/Vice Chair volunteers and nominations
  o Yves Idzerda nominated as Chair -- voted in
  o Hold off to nominate Vice Chair

• Review and discussion of double counting credits for degrees and certificates
  o Randy Babbitt and Lisa Brown
    ▪ New degree proposal for Masters in Optics -- can be dual degree for Masters in Physics, Chemistry, Electrical Engineering
    ▪ MSU Northern Masters students take CSNL 658 which is equivalent to MSU’s LAC 503. Would like to be able to count this course towards LAC cert.
  o Concerns, Comments, & Questions (group discussion):
    ▪ Dual degree policy in comparison to other schools (handout provided)
    ▪ Current policy allows all Cert. credits to roll into Masters
    ▪ Concern: student getting degree at other campus, may not have the same coursework
    ▪ Banner can handle dual degrees
    ▪ May be viewed as “Master and a Half” due to less total credits
      o Very few programs where overlapping coursework would be concern
  o LAC Certificate (group discussion):
    ▪ Currently allow all Certificate credits to count toward Degree
    ▪ Will need to change department requirements to take either/or to fulfill state requirements for licensure
  o Proposals (group discussion):
    ▪ 20% overlapping coursework
    ▪ Students must apply to both programs
    ▪ Define stricter standards
• Transfer credits count toward 20%
• No bonus for students applying to both programs
• Graduate School to submit revised policy to UGC in October

- College of Nursing Masters program proposal
  - Helen Melland and Donna Williams
    - Proposal for quality, better outcomes and patient care (strong push in field to better educate nurses for profession)
    - 4 other programs in state that educate nursing students to enter field with Associate Degree (ADRN)
    - Strong research shows higher education yields better nursing professionals
    - Proposal allows Associate Degree students to go straight to Masters Degree instead of stopping out to pursue Bach. first
      - MSU is currently the only program in state for Masters in Nursing
      - Students must complete bridge courses (400 level) to ensure competency
  - Questions, Concerns, and Comments (group discussion):
    - Board of Regents review in January & March.
    - Advertising cannot occur before approval of the program by Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.
  - Recommendations to Dean by Council:
    - Must be fully licensed as RNs prior to admission to Graduate School; replace wording that states Bach. Degree with RN
    - Projected tuition for bridge classes should be calculated at the Graduate rate, not Undergraduate rate.
    - Motion approved to move forward with proposal and recommendation

- Useful items for meeting:
  - Attendance sheet for committee that identifies all members, tenure, and school/department
  - Graduate handbook

- Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm
- Next meeting on October 15, 2013