University Graduate Council Minutes

Wednesday, October 8, 2014   8:00 – 9:25 a.m.                 ABB 138

Council in Attendance:
John Borkowski, Vice Chair (Sciences)   Theodore Lipfert (Arts)
Anne Christensen (Business)   Arthur Bangert (Education)
Sarah Codd (Engineering)   W. Randall Babbitt (Faculty Senate)
Mary Miles (Health & Human Development)   Timothy LeCain, Alternate (Letters)
Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)   Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)

Also in Attendance:
Amanda Brown (The Graduate School)   Lauren Cerretti (The Graduate School)
Donna Williams (Nursing)   Helen Melland (Nursing)
Jane Scharff (Nursing)   Gretchen McNeely (Nursing)

Absent:
Alan Dyer, Chair (Agriculture)
Christopher Livingston (Architecture)

• Meeting started at 8:05 a.m.

• September 24, 2014 minutes approved
  o Vice Chair Borkowski called for approval, council member LeCain motioned, council member Christensen second

• Announcements (Dean Hoo)
  o Central Recruiter position vacancy has been posted in GS for STEM programs
  o Recruitment weekend: February 28, 2015 to March 1, 2015

• Old Business
  o RN-MN Nursing Level II proposal discussion
    ▪ Vice Chair Borkowski:
      • Is a bachelor’s degree required to pursue a Master’s degree?
      • How does this affect the proposal?
      • Will this cause the policy to be changed?
    ▪ Council member Shreffler-Grant:
      • Are there guidelines in place for review of proposals?
      • Committee members do not have expertise in fields other than their own, are therefore not qualified to evaluate other programs’ proposals
      • Feels that guidelines would help keep reviews on track, not critique to extremes
    ▪ Council member Bangert felt that the critique of the Education proposal was helpful
    ▪ Council member Lipfert disagrees that discussion/questions asked about the Nursing proposal were over the top -- rigorous discussion is important
    ▪ Council member Christensen is concerned that students who have taken entry level community college courses are not prepared for MSU’s higher level courses
    ▪ Vice Chair Borkowski points out that Core 2.0 is explicit in the proposal, but could change in the future – how will this affect the program?
• Dean Melland responded that from Core 1.0 to Core 2.0, there was a transition period – MSU would follow change
  ▪ Council member Miles is concerned that we are opening the door for professional experience to count as a bachelor’s degree
  ▪ Would prefer to have stipulation written into approved version of proposal that as a practitioner’s degree, professional experience counts
  ▪ There is no BSN along the way in the MN program
  ▪ Council member Miles motioned to approve Nursing proposal as written, council member Lipfert second
  ▪ Council member Shreffler-Grant recused – Unanimous pass

• UGC to send council member Miles suggestions for Level II proposal review guidelines, which the Curriculum Committee will then propose as procedure for future Level II proposals
  ▪ Council Member Miles supports the idea of developing a procedure for reviews with goals, expectations, timelines, and suggestions
  ▪ Feels that the amount of questions were to gain a complete picture, assist the proposal’s success as it moves to other levels of review

  o Review of Progress Reports form for Graduate Students
    ▪ Review of draft, Vice Chair Borkowski called for motion to approve
      ▪ Council member Lipfert motioned, council member Babbitt second – Unanimous pass
      ▪ Council member Miles motioned for effective date of May 2015, council member Babbitt second – Unanimous pass

  o Master’s credits toward Doctoral degree policy proposal
    ▪ Review and discussion of the proposed policy
    ▪ Vice Chair Borkowski called for motion to approve as proposed
      ▪ Council member Miles motioned to approve proposal as written, council member Lipfert second
        ▪ Council member Babbitt abstained
      ▪ Dean Hoo called for effective date of Fall 2016
        ▪ Council member Babbitt motioned, council member Lipfert second – Unanimous pass

• Course Requests procedure review
  o Requests that “new” and “delete” (not “change”) course requests be reviewed by UGC Curriculum Committee during academic year
  o Curriculum Committee to make recommendations to Dean Hoo for the colleges/departments
  o Dean Hoo feels she should not be solely responsible for approvals during summertime
    ▪ Proposal for submission deadlines during academic year:
      ▪ Course for fall, submit by February 15
      ▪ Course for spring, submit by September 15
    ▪ Existing form has timeframe stipulation on it, would need to check with Provost
    ▪ Council member Miles motioned proposed deadlines, council member Lipfert second
    ▪ Vote: Tabled until next meeting for research on current deadlines

• PhD Enhancement Award
  o How to evaluate proposals submitted for this award?
Requests that UGC Policy Committee evaluate/rewrite the call (content) for PhD Enhancement Award

- What should be in the proposals?
- What are the guidelines for the merit review process?
- Clarify expectations and evaluation process
- What should be in the annual report to qualify a department applying for another round of funding?
- Set deadlines to receive proposals and to recommend an award

Path forward: the current CFP will be sent to the UGC Policy Committee with the request to draft a revised CFP to be reviewed at the next UFC meeting 10/22/14

- Meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.