University Graduate Council Minutes

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

8:00 – 9:25 a.m.                 ABB 138

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

Also in Attendance:
Amanda Brown (The Graduate School)    Lauren Cerretti (The Graduate School)
Melis Edwards (The Graduate School)

Absent:
None

• Meeting started at 8:05 a.m.

• November 19, 2014 minutes approved
  o Chair Dyer called for approval, council member Miles motioned, council member LeCain second
    ▪ Unanimous approval

• Announcements
  o New policy proposals have been removed from the agenda due to the upcoming break; they will be brought back in spring 2015.

• Old Business
  o Curriculum Committee – Level II Proposal PhD in Psychology (Committee member Miles)
    ▪ Department clarified (via email, but not stated in the proposal) that the current Master’s degree is not eliminated – will be MS en route to PhD.
    ▪ Concern raised that the proposal is still unclear about the Master’s degree. Is the Master’s degree a terminal degree? Or are students only allowed to apply for the PhD and receive the Master’s en route?
    ▪ Some editing concerns for clarity is recommended for advancement of the proposal to the next level.
    ▪ UGC (chair of UGC curriculum committee) will send a letter to the department and Faculty Senate that includes suggestions for improvement and the vote decision by UGC.
    ▪ Motion to approve, Council member Christensen moved, council member LeCain second
      ▪ Unanimous approval – Council member Babbitt abstained.

• New Business
  o Guidelines for Review of Curriculum Changes (Dean Hoo)
    ▪ Associate Provost Larsen shared with Dean Hoo that Faculty Senate already approved guidelines for review of graduate curriculum changes without informing UGC.
Course deletions can effect multiple departments.
Departments that require courses from other programs need to be informed (e.g., Education requiring Statistics, but Statistics does not have sufficient resources)

- **PhD Enhancement Award (Policy & Procedures Committee)**
  - Time sensitive – Notice needs to be sent before end of Fall 2014 semester
  - Evaluation criteria/rubric needs to be approved
  - Last year, some proposals failed to address PhD enhancement aspect of the proposal and only addressed undergraduate teaching
  - Should emphasize quality teaching experience for students
  - Students who are awarded are tracked for continuation of this award
  - Multiple year awards are ideal as long as the department qualifies

- **Doctoral 12 Credit Requirement policy proposal (Policy & Procedures Committee)**
  - Tabled – Committee members Codd and Babbitt to add language and send to the Policy & Procedures Committee and the Dean of the Graduate School.

- **By-Laws Modification (Governance Committee)**
  - Modest in changes
  - Proposal: The Dean of Graduate School and Faculty Senate Member representative should not have voting rights (i.e., ex-officio, non-voting members); the senate member acts in an advisory role, the Dean looks to UGC for recommendations/suggestions
  - Alternate college members have voting rights when designated members are absent
  - A Faculty senate member who serves on a UGC sub-committee is intended to serve in an alternate capacity
  - Should there be proxy votes?
    - Concern: If a council member misses a meeting/discussion, they may not be informed enough to vote.

- **Role of Faculty Senate Members (Governance Committee)**
  - The current faculty senate members stated that he would like to vote.
  - Discussion:
    - Should they vote?
    - What is the role of the Faculty Senate member? S/he is not assigned to UGC by a college dean. They attend as part of UGC by-laws.
    - What does the faculty senate member bring to UGC meetings that other council members do not?
  - Chair Dyer called for a vote to change the by-laws to allow Faculty Senate members to vote on issues that do not go on to the Faculty Senate.
    - Council member LeCain motioned, Council member Babbitt second
      - Unanimous approval
  - Revised UGC by-laws will be reviewed by UGC in spring 2015

- **Graduate Student representative as a part of UGC**
  - Discussion:
    - Should there still be a student member? Inconsistent attendance in the past
    - Should the student member be allowed to vote?
    - How is a student chosen? Deans recommend a student for this role, rotates among departments.
• It is a burdensome to ask a student to attend these bimonthly meetings and to stand-in and represent all Graduate students.
• Should the student member be removed from the by-laws?
• Student input is useful on some issues
  o UGC members are to ask their graduate students and report back to UGC in spring 2015?
• Possible role of a Graduate student is as a consultant on topics agreed to by UGC
  • Tabled

• **Announcement (Dean Hoo)**
  o Graduate Faculty status will be re-visited in Spring 2015

• **Meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.**