UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES

Wednesday Feb 15, 2017 10:10 – 11:10 a.m. ABB 145

Council in Attendance:
Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)          Ian van Coller (Arts)
Mary Miles (Health & Human Development) Robert Rydell (Letters)
Christopher Livingston (Architecture) Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)
Tena Versland (Education)              Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)
Fabian Menalled (Agriculture)          Marc Giullian (Business)
Franke Wilmer (Faculty Senate)         John Borkowski (Science)

Also in Attendance:
Amanda Brown (The Graduate School)
Lauren Cerretti (The Graduate School)
Kristin Smith (Student Representative)
Susan Cohen (History)

Absent:

Meeting started at 10:16am

Feb 1, 2017 minutes
• Al-Kaisy moves, Giullian second, unanimous pass

Announcements
• Update from Faculty Senate (Wilmer)
  o Did not meet last week (3 week break); next Wednesday is next scheduled meeting
  o Approved new graduate courses
  o Role & Scope template ready for March 1
  o Annual Review faculty forms are being revised and are almost complete
• DPC update (Brown/Cerretti), handout
  o CollegeNet training Feb 8, attended by mostly new staff
  o Coffee Talk scheduled for Feb 22, Admissions focused
  o Six professional development activities for graduate students in Feb; info sent out in GS’s Scholar’s Corner newsletter
• UGC meeting scheduled for 3/15/17 (spring break week) has been moved to 3/8/17 in ABB 145

Old Business
• Department Handbooks (Borkowski)
  o Chair Borkowski is currently reviewing handbooks and preparing summary document
  o Will ask for volunteers for ad-hoc committee to review handbooks once primary review complete
  o Will consult with Grad School re: what are main items to be included?
Dean Hoo: GS would like for every program to have general guidelines in a handbook and follow best practices so that all handbooks look similar but departments maintain their own identities

Comment: some Engineering depts. don’t wish to post a written document with policies. Can Grad School encourage depts. to complete and post a handbook?

Chair Borkowski will complete his review and summary; will email Council asking for volunteers for ad-hoc committee to review

**Level II Proposal, PhD Statistics Education, Update (Miles)**

Request for more information and Council questions have been sent to Math department

Once receive response, will invite to UGC meeting if necessary or Council will vote on whether or not to move proposal forward

**Committee Reports**

**Policy and Procedures Committee**

- Reporting of Qualifying/Comprehensive Exams requirement (Al-Kaisy)
  - Summary of previous comments on this broad topic
  - Dean Hoo: if a student takes an exam, it needs to be reported to the GS
  - Dean Hoo: exam language (e.g. qualifying vs comprehensive, etc) across departments is not used the same way; this complicates writing policy for exams and requiring reporting of these exams
  - Al-Kaisy and Borkowski will compile list of language/exam uses across departments using handbooks and email correspondence with departments

**New Business**

**Combined MA/PhD History proposal (rec Dec 2016) (Cohen)**

- Reconfigure options so that a student can received the MA enroute to the PhD
- Department feels it is losing qualified students by currently requiring students have their MA before being admitted to the PhD program
  - PhD programs that accept students with BA could be more attractive to students because the program takes less time to complete
- Q: How much would the change reduce time to degree (TTD)?
  - One to two years, estimate
  - Average History PhD time-to-degree is 7 years for full time students
- Q: Does the change require additional resources?
  - No
- Q: Is Board of Regents (BoR) approval required?
  - No; considered an internal change
- Q: will student assistants be compensated at doctoral level?
  - Under discussion; would be sliding scale if approved within department
- Grad School offers credit clarifications re: masters enroute to PhD and policy requirements: 30 credit min for master’s degree, 12 original coursework credits for PhD plus 18-28 dissertation 690 credits
- Miles will send Council questions to History department

Adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Next scheduled meeting – March 1 at 10:10 a.m.