UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018  11am-12pm  Library CR1

Council in Attendance:
John Borkowski (Sciences)  
James Becker (Health & Human Development)  
Christopher Livingston (Architecture)  
Robert Rydell (Letters)  
Fabian Menalled (Agriculture)  
Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)

Dennis Aig (Arts)  
Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)  
Kathryn Bills (Student Representative)  
Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)  
Tena Versland (Education)  
Michael Babcock (Faculty Senate)

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

Absent:
Marc Giullian (Business)

Meeting started at 11:04am
Nov 28, 2017 minutes
• Livingston moves, Aig second, unanimous approval

Announcements
• Update: Faculty Senate (Babcock/Richards)
  o Welcome to Abbie Richards (FS chair-elect)
  o Approved a number of MSSE course number changes (formerly 591 Special Topics courses, now hard-numbered)
  o School Superintendent certificate program going through FS today
• Provost’s Award for graduate research and creativity mentoring, winner (Hoo)
  o Matthew Fields, Center for Biofilm Engineering, winner
  o Provost’s Office asks UGC to re-write criteria of award
  o Dean Hoo asks for volunteers for an ad-hoc sub-committee to re-write the call
    ▪ Volunteers: Tena Versland, John Borkowski, Ahmed Al-Kaisy, Jean Shreffler-Grant
• 125th Celebration (Rydell)
  o Series of events to celebrate and book written by Dr. Rydell
  o Every month in 2018 a different college/unit will host activities
• Junior/Senior Night, event held by Grad School (DPC)
  o Select juniors and seniors invited to informational event; students will receive email from The Graduate School
  o Jan 30th, 5:30 pm, Jake Jabs 315
Old Business

- **MAT Proposal (Livingston)**
  - Email sent to Council with explanation regarding differences between MAT (MA in Teaching) and MAEE (MA in English Ed) proposals and other programs on campus, like MS in Science Education.
  - MAT is initial licensure program, others are for in-service teachers (like MSSE program, MS in Mathematics, Math Ed program, etc.)
  - Concern raised regarding heavy reliance on NTT faculty—when funding is cut, NTT are the first to be lost—could be cost to students/learning outcomes, instability in program
    - At MSU, some agreement that NTT faculty teaching courses is commonplace and a program like MSSE currently relies heavily on NTT and is productive
    - Concerned that creating a program MSU can't afford on the T/TT lines might be a program that MSU truly can't afford
    - Q: Has Dept of Education submitted proposal to hire a new T/TT faculty for this program?
      - Robert Carson (former director of Northern Plains Transition to Teaching (NPTT) program, which is ending) will initially transition into MAT program as a tenured instructor
      - MAT is essentially a replacement for NPTT
      - Other NPTT instructors also planned to teach courses for MAT
      - Not sure what next hires will be
        - Letter from UGC should include info about NTT concern
  - Chair calls for a motion
  - Menalled moves to send proposal forward to Faculty Senate, Versland second, pass with one abstention
  - Livingston will compose letter from UGC to Dept of Ed to send with proposal to FS
    - Will route letter through UGC to send letter to FS by Jan 24th

- **Graduate Faculty Status (GFS) (Borkowski)**
  - At Nov 28th meeting, Council discussed:
    - Proposal not acceptable in current form to move forward—including motivation to create GFS and the benefits/value of it
    - Concerned GFS could become productivity measure for university; could create “class” issues between faculty
    - Concerns from faculty in colleges conveyed to UGC representatives
  - At today's meeting:
    - Q: what is timeline for new workload policy?
      - Faculty Senate members: out of Joint Academic Governance Steering Committee (JAGS) and being sent to entire FS, Deans’ Council, and Provost for review
      - Q: Should UGC wait to table GFS based on workload policy timeline? What does the workload policy draft say?
      - FS: The workload draft charges units to come up with a workload plan and recognizes the mentoring of PhD students as teaching (not research) to encourage faculty receiving “credit” for mentoring
        - Council agreement to wait to decide on GFS until workload policy reviewed

- **Department Handbooks (Borkowski)**
  - Will send current template to Council for review and feedback
  - Borkowski, Al-Kaisy, Versland, and Bills current ad-hoc committee
• PhD Enhancement Awards deadline is Friday
  o Ad-hoc committee will be formed as soon as closes

Adjourned at 12pm

Next scheduled meeting – January 31, 2018 at 11 am