UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES

Wednesday, September 5, 2018        12-1pm  Reid 415

Council in Attendance:
Susan Kollin (Letters)               Brock Smith (Agriculture)
Marc Giullian (Business)             Christopher Livingston (Architecture)
Dennis Aig (Arts)                    James Becker (Health & Human Development)
Tena Versland (Education)            Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)
Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)         Abigail Richards (Faculty Senate)
Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)    

Also in Attendance:
Lauren Cerretti (Graduate School)    
Amanda Brown (Graduate School)       
Sara Mannheimer (Library)            
Yujian Wang (OIP)                    
John Borkowski (Sciences)            

Absent:
Nicolas Yunes (Sciences)             
Brett Walker (Faculty Senate)        

Meeting started at 12:00pm

April 25, 2018 minutes
  • Livingston moves, Becker second, unanimous approval

Announcements
  • Thank you to John Borkowski for his years of service on council
  • Welcomed New UGC Chair: Ahmed Al-Kaisy
  • Welcomed New Vice Chair: Chris Livingston
  • New members: Nicolas Yunes, Susan Kollin, Brett Walker, Sara Mannheimer, Yujian Wang
  • Faculty Senate update (Richards)
    o First meeting today (4/25)
    o Reviewing two Level II proposals
  • Handbook Template (Hoo)
    o American Studies developed their handbook based on UGC-draft template
    o The GS will ask for more volunteers from L&S to improve the template

Old Business
  • Reporting of Comprehensive Exams requirement, discussion of draft proposal (Al-Kaisy)
    o Discussed during last meeting of spring 2018
    o Chair Al-Kaisy posted new documents on the shared drive; requests Council review and send comments before the next meeting
New Business

- **MSU Library representation on UGC**
  - Discussed during last meeting of spring 2018
  - One option is ex-officio, non-voting member and to add to bylaws
  - Another option is to have the Library representative participate in the same way as the OIP representative – thus no amendment of the bylaws
  - Dean Hoo notes Library’s close relationship with ETD (Electronic Thesis & Dissertation) process
  - Q: What do bylaws say about current membership?
    - One member from each college (exceptions for L&S, AA, EHHD: two members each)
  - Dean asks the Governance Committee to review and make a suggestion to Council

- **Graduate student representation on UGC**
  - Applications can be found on the shared drive
  - AY17-18 student representative Bills expressed interest in serving in AY 18-19
  - Open discussion
    - There is value in having the same student serve a longer term because it takes a while to understand Council
    - Bylaws regarding student rep read aloud
      - “rotation among the colleges”
      - Q: Should Council revise the language in the bylaws?
    - Dean Hoo notes that other committees on campus are now asking for graduate student representation and that our student applicants could be suggested to other committees if not selected by UGC
    - Majority of UGC issues relate to doctoral programs, so having doctoral student is preferential
    - Dean asks Governance Committee to review bylaws and bring suggestion to Council re: can a student serve more than 1 term? Should there be a rotation among the colleges? Suggests being careful to keep “full-time student” language

Curriculum Committee

- **BS/MS in Computer Science**
  - Proposed program documents sent to Council
  - 5 year BS/MS “Seamless” Program
  - Proposal includes reserving 12 credits as an undergraduate to be used towards the MS degree
    - Would be a policy exception; some programs already have exception to allow 12-15 reserved credits (e.g. Math 4+1 program)
    - Concern raised that program does not require some of the standard graduate admissions requirements
    - MS is aimed at Plan A (thesis) and Plan C (coursework only) options
    - Livingston asks Council to send comments/questions to him by Monday (9/10/18)
      - He will communicate the comments/questions to CS

Special sub-committee

- Provost’s Award for Graduate Research/Creativity Mentoring, call revision
  - Handout, will discuss next meeting

Adjourned at 1 pm; **Next scheduled meeting** – Sept 19, 2018