

Minutes of **University Graduate Council**  
January 28, 2010

**Present:** CHAIR Tim McDermott (AG), Marc Giullian (BUS), William Ruff (EHHD), Warren Jones (ENGR), Carl Fox (DGE), Robert Bennett (L&S-Letters), Yves Idzerda (L&S-Science), Jane Scharff (NURS), Richard Wojtowicz (Faculty Senate).

Also attending were Nathalie Caillaud (OIP), Craig Stewart (HHD), and Donna Negaard (DGE).

Meeting commenced at 12:10 p.m. in 325 Leon Johnson.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for December 09, 2009 – moved, seconded and **approved with amendments**.

UGC Committee Reports

- Policies & Procedures- the committee drafted an alternative thesis and dissertation formatting document and will continue to work with Ginny. The alternative format will be put on February's agenda.

Coaching as an HHD Master's Option

- a. There are more youth playing sports and fewer teachers in our high schools that are also coaches. This creates a growing need for trained, professional coaches in the state of Montana.
  - a. Sporting Goods Manufacturing Association data stated approximately 57,000,000 people, under the age of 19, played sports in 2006.
  - b. Over 7,000,000 of those were in our high schools.
  - c. National Report on Coaching in the US found less than 10% of coaches have any formal training or teaching (2008).
- b. There is a need for coursework creation and conversion. How much will be needed to start the program?
  - a. The initial investment will come out of a fund generated by other distance-delivered programs within the department.
  - b. HHD has a short term projection to make this program self-sufficient through extended studies.
    - i. If it is not self supported in 2-3 years, the coaching option will not be offered.
  - c. Most courses are already offered and will only need to be converted to online courses through EU, and the creation of new coursework will be kept to a minimum.
    - i. Department does not want to increase faculty workloads.
    - ii. A few courses are being offered through EU already.
- c. This program must be easily accessible, and affordable.
- d. In 2003 BOR approved an undergraduate coaching minor. There are now over 50 students in that program.
  - a. A masters' option was the next logical step for HHD.

- e. Medical training is perhaps the most important component.
  - a. This program is not sport specific.
- f. There is a national need for training coaches. NCAA recognizes the issue, but the solution is left up to national governing bodies.
  - a. Coaches are not teachers.
  - b. They are not paid well or at all.
  - c. U of M was supportive, and encouraged HHD to look at their Sport's Management program.
  - d. There are lots of young coaches in this state with very little experience.
  - e. There is also a coaching audience in the private sector.
  - f. Also assistant coaches in universities.
- g. This is a project degree. 60-70% of projects would be published work in refereed journals.
  - a. Projects are individualized, and students will complete 575, Professional Paper credits.
- h. The program's target audience is Montana, small towns that are a great distance from major MT cities. Makes distance delivery crucial.
- i. Has HHD considered the cohort model for their coursework?
  - a. Coaches are working during the traditional academic year.
  - b. Should be a lot of coursework availability in the summer.
  - c. Length of coursework is flexible at this point.
    - i. Could follow NPTT's model with 8-10 week coursework.
    - ii. Don't have to be confined to a semester.
- j. Will the online component make this time consuming and create more work?
  - a. There are always some technical hurdles.
  - b. In terms of instruction, online courses can take longer, but the trade-off is that you can communicate with students or instructors anytime.
  - c. Has great potential to create an online community with team building objectives. This is important for distance-delivered, or hybrid courses.
- k. Introduction to statistics is a 5XX level course that will fit into a seasonal schedule, and is offered 2-3 times a year.
- l. HHD must really prove that there is demand, especially with the current economic climate.

Motion: Moved to recommend the level I proposal for Coaching as an HHD Master's option as written to the Provost. Motion seconded, and **approved**.

### Capacity Study

- a. DGE has created a survey to collect information on enrollment and other aspects of each department.
  - a. Where are our programs at?
  - b. What are our budgeting priorities?
  - c. Help us set recruiting goals.
- b. Do we want results by degree or by department?
  - a. We track much of our data by degree currently.
- c. Department Heads specifically, will be asked to complete the survey.

- d. Agricultural Education is a good example as to why we should take inventory of our graduate programs.
  - a. Enrollment numbers were low, so the program went online to entice a new audience.
  - b. Have yet to see the outcome.
- e. Limited TA/RA positions will undoubtedly play a huge role for most departments in enrollment.

#### MSU Strategic Planning

- a. 5-10 year strategic plan.
  - a. Objectives and goals will be directly tied to the budget.
- b. History and Mystery
  - a. Why do we do it? Is it just because we have always done it?
- c. Would like to have 5-6 university goals.
  - a. At least one would be associated with teaching, research, and service.
- d. Budget priorities based on our core mission.
- e. Need benchmarks to assess progress.

#### Form and Process Review in DGE

- a. We have around 50 forms.
- b. Do we add value to all of them?
- c. If there is no value, should we continue to require it?

#### Research Celebration

- a. Held every spring, this year it will be on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Encourage your students to participate!

#### January BOR Meeting

- a. Major topics were research and earmarks to congressional leaders.
- b. U of M and MSU had undergraduate and graduate research presentations.
- c. Considering graduate assistants as residents for tuition waiver purposes.
  - a. Proposed by U of M and strongly supported by MSU.
- d. MSU has a good track record of converting earmarks into competitive funds.
  - a. NASA funding for Thermal Biology Institute (TBI), an example that earmarks can work.

#### Graduate Student Profile Publication

- a. Feature outstanding graduate students winning awards, getting grants, and being honored.
- b. The newsletter just isn't big enough to recognize all of them.
- c. Don't want a yearbook publication either.

Comprehensive Exam Policy

- a. Currently requires that every degree program have a comprehensive exam.
  - a. Does encourage departments to be innovative to come up with projects, papers, and other ways to satisfy the comp. exam requirement.
  - b. Perhaps the language could be changed to require a culminating experience, rather than a comprehensive exam specifically.
  - c. Discussion will continue at a later date with specific examples of how the policy could be re-stated.

Meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Catherine Dale, UGC Secretary  
Division of Graduate Education