

**UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

Monday, March 25, 2019

2-3pm

ABB 145

Council in Attendance:

Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)  
Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)  
Marc Giullian (Business)  
Brock Smith (Agriculture)  
Dennis Aig (Arts)  
Sara Mannheimer (Library)  
Ron Larsen (Interim Dean of The Graduate School)  
Nicolas Yunes (Letters & Science)  
Yujian Wang (International Programs)  
Eric Austin (Faculty Senate)  
Christopher Livingston (Architecture)  
Tena Versland (Education)  
James Becker (Health & Human Development)  
Robert Rydell (Letters & Science)

Also in Attendance:

Lauren Cerretti (Graduate School)  
Emily Peters (Graduate School)

Absent:

Sobia Anjum (Student Representative)

Meeting started at 2:02 pm

**March 11, 2019 minutes**

- Motion to approve made by Livingston, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Giullian, unanimously passed

**Announcements**

- **Faculty Senate update** (Austin)
  - Reviewing updated internship policy: send questions/concerns as soon as possible
  - Brock Tessman from OCHE met with faculty senate last week
    - 3 proposals for new graduate programs were held up by OCHE due to overlap with other campuses
    - Clarification of OCHE's process; moving forward, OCHE will try to facilitate discussion regarding overlapping programs
    - More information to come from OCHE – will share with UGC
- **Graduate School update**
  - Dean search in progress; 3 candidates on campus this week

- All units on campus requested to create strategic plans to align with the university strategic plan – due by Sept 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Starting process for The Graduate School – will get UGC input
- 3 IIP proposals: reviewers should all now have access
- Spring graduation is full
  - The Graduate School is receiving formal requests to walk early (ex. 1 credit extension) – have started being denied by the Office of the Registrar
  - Office of the Registrar said The Graduate School originally requested policy to be graduate students don't walk until officially completed
    - Q: Is this UGC's stance?
      - Elaboration on process: 5 out of term walkers allowed at each ceremony (grad and undergrad combined); summer undergrad students walk in spring, summer graduate students invited to fall ceremony; discussion of ticketing guests; appeal process
      - Open discussion: difference of 1 credit extension v. summer grads; space available at previous ceremonies; saying no is negative PR
  - Dean Larsen will pass along UGC feedback

### Old Business

- **Reporting of Comprehensive Exam requirement, proposal revisions (Larsen)**
  - Dean Larsen provides overview of proposal revisions
  - Comments:
    - Comp exam terminology – different departments use different terminology
      - Comp exam is defined by the new policy
      - Grad program handbooks can provide further clarification by department
    - Definition of candidate for doctoral degree
      - Discussion that most MSU programs don't make a major distinction
      - Candidacy can be defined in the program handbook
      - Discussion of potential benefits: stipend increase, incentive to take exams earlier
    - Exam reporting
      - Q: If results of exams are only maintained by the program, could you end up with a graduate that didn't complete the appropriate exams and needs to return to finish requirements?
        - Discussion: no, most likely a student wouldn't be required to come back
        - Importance of reporting: university grants degrees, not departments
      - Q: Is The Graduate School okay with only comprehensive exams being reported?
        - Prefer to have a complete student record
        - Need to know which programs require what – consistent requirement for all students
        - Suggestion: if a qualifying exam is given, report the qualifying exam
          - The Graduate School currently asks for qualifying, comprehensive, and defenses on program of study
            - Feeds to DegreeWorks
            - Grad School staff follow up with department if there is an inconsistency

### New Business

### Committee Reports

- Policy and Procedures Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Governance Committee

Adjourned at 2:52 pm

Next scheduled meeting – Monday, April 8, 2019. 2:00 – 3:00 PM in ABB 145.