

Meeting of March 19, 2014, 2:00-3:30 p.m.  
Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room

**Agenda**

**I. Approval of Minutes:** February 19, 2014\*

**II. Report of the Chair**

**III. New Business**

- A. Proposal for a Master's of Arts in Theatre & Dance\*
- B. Proposal to Discontinue Three Graduate Certificates in the School of Library and Information Science\*
- C. Other New Business

**IV. Old Business**

- A. Master's Advisory Group
- D. Other Old Business

**V. Committee Reports**

- A. Executive Committee
- B. New Programs Committee
- C. Academic Senate Liaison
- D. Graduate Council Liaisons to Academic Senate Committees

**VI. Adjournment**

\* attachment

**Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of March 19, 2014,  
2:00 p.m., Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room**

Members Present: A. Biswas, R. Benkert, K. Braunschweig, C. Chow, G. Deblase, M. Dickson, J. Dunbar, D. Dungee-Anderson, E. Faue, A. Feig, J. Green, R. Holley, K. Jackson, G. Kapatos, J. Martin, G. Mao, A. Mathur, S. Ng, D. Patterson, K. Paesani, L. Schwiebert, D. Walster, D. Walz, C. Winston, H. Wu, D. Yingst

Members Absent with Notice: M. Clark, S. Firestine, J. Moldenhauer, J. Pruchnic, P. Sopory, A. Yaprak

Members Absent: P. Dubinsky, W. Gibson-Scipio, G. Kapatos, P. Kernsmith, M. Malek

Also Present: M. Anderson, L. Romano, A. Rosales, J. Thomas

The meeting was convened at 2:02 p.m. by the Chairperson, Ambika Mathur

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of February 19, 2014.

Marcus Dickson, Chair of the Executive Committee of Graduate Council, introduced Ambika Mathur as the Dean of the Graduate School and Ken Jackson as Associate Dean of the Graduate School.

Dean Mathur thanked everyone for the continued support, and she congratulated Charlotte Winston, the student representative to Graduate Council, for the successful defense of her dissertation.

**II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

- The fifth annual Graduate Exhibition took place on March 18. Associate Dean Jackson thanked Cindy Sokol and everyone who assisted with organizing the event, as well as all of the participants and judges. The Graduate School provided twenty-nine awards to the presenters; a list of winners is available on the website: <http://gradschool.wayne.edu/exhibition/index.php>.

In addition to the presentations, the BEST program sponsored a panel of doctoral alumni, who spoke about careers outside of academia. President Wilson attended the event and provided an introduction for both the BEST Panel and the Award Ceremony. Dean Mathur said she appreciated the support from the President and found the panelists to be very engaging. About sixty students attended the session and almost 90% indicated some interest in non-academic careers. Dean Mathur thanked Dr. Andrew Feig for moderating the session.

- Dean Mathur announced Wayne State's submission for the NIH-funded BUILD (Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity) proposal will be completed within about two weeks. According the RFA, BUILD "aim[s] to enhance diversity in the biomedical, behavioral, clinical, and social sciences research workforce. Addressing a major leakage point in the research workforce

pipeline, BUILD awards are intended to support the design and implementation of innovative programs, strategies and approaches to transform undergraduate research training and mentorship. BUILD awards will also support institutional and faculty development to further strengthen undergraduate research training environments." Wayne State will be partnering with the University of Detroit-Mercy, Marygrove College and the Wayne County Community College District, and the project will include the support of about 150 faculty from the four institutions.

- Dean Mathur reported that the search for a new Vice President for Research is winding down. Two candidates have been recommended to President Wilson, and he will meet with both before making a final decision.
- The searches for a new Dean of the School of Business and Dean of the Law School are ongoing.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Proposal for a Master's of Arts in Theatre and Dance

- Dr. Mary Anderson provided a presentation introducing the proposal for this new program (the full proposal to Graduate Council was provided with the agenda for the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting). The new proposal is based upon a number of factors including the merger of the Departments of Theatre and Dance as well as the planned closure of the PhD and MA in Theatre programs.
- Dr. Anderson reported The role of the teaching artist over the past 50 years has developed significantly, although education reform and political pressures have frequently interrupted study and sustained arts education programming in the U.S., the teaching artist today performs an increasingly important role in numerous educational and community contexts. The fields of dance and theater, which are largely underrepresented in arts education in general in this country, depend heavily on teaching artists to deliver educational programs, particularly in dance and theater education, as well as in community-based outreach programs. However, the training preparation and practices of teaching artists in dance and theater arts have received little to no curricular attention at the graduate level of study.
- The Master of Arts program is a three-year program of advanced studies in theater and dance, designed to provide specialized training in research methods, pedagogical foundations, teaching artistry, artistic practice, community engagement and career professionalization. Part-time enrollment is expected for the majority of students and the program will be offered in two formats, one which is fully on-line, and another which is a hybrid. The primary goal of our program is to educate practitioners, community artists and educators for effective engagement in communities of teaching artistry.
- Three groups constitute the target populations for this degree program. Artists currently working in community settings through which to develop their skills in teaching and engaging the community through the arts; recent BA and BFA students in theater and dance seeking a transition or bridge into the professional world for further graduate studies; and current K-12 classroom teachers seeking professional development opportunities through which to enhance the curriculum through arts and dance degree program. Students accepted into the program will come to us with substantial experience, either as artists, performers, educators, or working/teaching artists. The program advances teaching artists for greater opportunities in theaters, schools, museums, community-based organizations, social service agencies and performing arts organizations. The program also prepares students for leadership positions, arts education directors, arts education directors, professional theater and dance companies, youth and community program managers of a wide variety of programs, including schools, youth theaters and social service organizations.
- Dr. Gina DeBlase asked questions about the Michigan Teacher certification process for K-12 theatre and dance teachers and the effect upon the proposed program
  - Dr. Anderson answered that the Department of Theatre and Dance hosts a certification program for dance teachers; however, Michigan does not have certification for drama or theatre. She added the master's program probably would

not necessarily be attractive to those seeking K-12 certification in dance. It's more likely that the program would be attractive to students who did a BA or BFA in dance, not planning to teach, but have since developed community-based dance practice. They don't necessarily want to be a full-time dance teacher in a K-12 setting, but they might want to be an artist in residence. Dr. Anderson said that it is possible in the future there will be some sort of a link between the dance credential program and our master's program.

- Dr. Dickson questioned how the course offerings would work, given that this is a three-year program, and what would happen if a student deviated from the plan of work.
  - Dr. Anderson responded that the department decided that the best thing would be to admit a cohort of about fifteen every other year. The expectation is that a student will take all of the classes in sequence. If a student misses a course, s/he would have to wait and the program would be closer to four or five years long. The department will be continually monitoring the program and will make modifications based on their evaluations.
- Dr. Feig asked for more information about the hybrid versus online students. Does the department anticipate that one population will be larger than the other, and what would be the thesis defense process?
  - The department could accommodate for 100% online students, 100% hybrid, or anything in between because all of the core courses are online. Online students will be able to defend their thesis virtually, while hybrid students will have the option of an on-campus or virtual defense.
- Dr. Anderson and Dr. Jim Thomas exited the meeting before the proposal for the MA in Theatre and Dance was called to vote by Associate Dean Jackson. The proposal passed unanimously.

B. Proposal to Discontinue Three Graduate Certificates in the School of Library and Information Science

- David McGrann reported that the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) has requested to dissolve three graduate certificate programs. Two of these programs – the Graduate Certificate in Urban Librarianship and the Graduate Certificate in Arts and Museum Librarianship – have never had any students. The other program is the Graduate Certificate in Records and Information Management. The Associate Dean of SLIS has made arrangements for all current students. Despite great enthusiasm by the professional community and market analyses indicating strong enrollment potential, these certificates failed to generate sufficient student interest.
- The proposal to discontinue these three programs passed unanimously.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Master's Advisory Group

- Dr. Liz Faue reported that the group has been meeting since January, and the meetings have been around the creation of a Masters Office that would serve as sort of a center for advocacy and serve in support for master's education across the university. The group has submitted a memo to the dean offering their recommendations on the functions of a centralized Master's Office, including to:
  - collect information on and promulgate best practices in recruitment, advising, retention and degree completion of masters students
  - assist in curriculum enhancement in masters programs
  - advance academic support for masters education by teaming with other units in the university to try to increase the number of workshops and create strategies to identify internship opportunities
  - facilitate intra-university communication and cooperation in masters education
  - assist in the development and implementation of marketing strategies in the service of recruitment

- work to create a sense of a masters community
- Dr. Faue stated that the next step will be to establish scholarship funds to support master's students and master's programs, and she thanked the members of the Master's Advisory Group for their contributions.
- Dean Mathur confirmed that the Graduate School would be moving forward with the creation of a Master's Office using strategic initiative funds provided by the Board of Governors. The office will be headed by an associate dean and there will be a manager for support. Additionally, the Graduate School will be setting up an office for data management. This will also be headed by an associate dean and include a staff person. Dean Mathur said that these positions would be posted soon.

## V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Dr. Dickson reported that the committee discussed ongoing issues such as the Master's Advisory Group and the background check policy. The committee also touched upon the need to renew the PhD Advisory Group, in order to establish in a truly advisory process. Additionally, Dr. Dickson discussed his role on the Provost's GTA allocation committee. This committee will be looking at the process for assigning assistantships to different programs around the university. Dean Mathur is also part of the committee.

### B. NEW PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

- Mr. McGrann reported that the committee met on March 17 and discussed six proposals. These included the addition of Plan C to the MA in English, the reduction of credit hours for the MAT in Visual Arts Education, the addition of a concentration in Human Resources to the MBA, the addition of a dual-title program in Biomedical Imaging to the PhD in Biomedical Engineering, as well as the creation of a Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavioral Analysis in the College of Education and a Graduate Certificate in Clinical Social Work in the School of Social Work. The committee approved all of the proposals, which will be moving on the next steps in each respective approval process. The last New Programs meeting will take place in April.

### C. GRADUATE ADMISSIONS

- Dean Mathur introduced Amanda Rosales, who will be taking over as Acting Director of Graduate Admissions on April 1. Ms. Rosales has been the Associate Director of Graduate Admissions since 2011.
- Ms. Rosales covered admission numbers for the Spring/Summer semester. Overall numbers for application and admits are up, but registration is flat. She mentioned that over 400 applications are currently "waiting for decision". Any council members with questions specific to their program should contact Ms. Rosales. She added that the office has been using email and phone campaigns to encourage registration. The focus will be on domestic master's students.
- Ms. Rosales reported that early admit and application numbers for Fall 2014 are up from last year; however, it is early and over 2,400 applications still need decisions. The office is planning email campaigns to remind students that Fall registration will begin soon. Additionally, the office can tailor messages to go out to admitted students, please contact Ms. Rosales for more information.
- Fall 2014 registration begins on Monday, March 24.

### D. ACADEMIC SENATE LIAISON

- Dr. Lou Romano discussed the conversations surrounding the new policy on courses and credit hours that is being implemented by the Office of the Provost. The Policy Committee of Academic Senate would like to see more flexibility in terms of what a credit hour constitutes in different disciplines as well as in different levels of education. The implementation of this policy remains an ongoing issue.

- Overall university enrollment was down by an estimated 2.5%, which will have an impact on the budget. There is hope that state funding will increase this year.
- The inauguration ceremony for President Wilson will be April 3 and 4. On the 3rd there will be a concert put on by the College of Performing Arts. Then, on the 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be an academic symposium and poster session, which will include presentations from graduate students and postdocs, in advance of the formal inauguration. Dr. Romano encouraged all to attend.
- Dr. Romano returned to the budget discussion in order to expound upon the enrollment decline. He stated that declining master's enrollment does play a role, but one cannot underestimate the importance of FTIAC (first time student in any college) enrollments at the undergraduate level. This latter population is emphasized in reports and has a larger effect on the public perception of the university. Dr. Romano and members of council discussed the varying factors affecting enrollments at both the undergraduate and master's levels, as well as the need to come up with strategies for improvement specific to both populations.

**E. GRADUATE COUNCIL LIAISONS TO ACADEMIC SENTATE**

- Dr. Abe Biswas reported on the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Research Committee. The focus of the former has been on faculty mentorship and retirement awareness. The latter is looking into helping faculty write grants; they also discussed the BEST grant and plan to meet with Dean Mathur.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:21p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David McGrann  
Manager of the Graduate Council