

Meeting of March 23, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room

Agenda

- I. Approval of Minutes:** January 19, 2011*
- II. Report of the Chair**
- III. New Business**
 - A. Complementary Therapies in Healthcare
Graduate Certificate:* Judith Fouladbakhsh
 - B. Other New Business
- IV. Graduate Council Committee Reports**
 - A. Academic Standards Committee
 - 1. Mandatory Enrollment for Pre-Candidacy PhD Students*
 - 2. Dissertation Revisions Stemming from the Defense*
 - B. Executive Committee
 - C. New Programs Committee
- V. Old Business**
- VI. Other Committee Reports**
 - A. Graduate Enrollment Services
 - B. Academic Senate Liaison
 - C. University Libraries Liaison
- VII. Adjournment**

* attachment

**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of March 23, 2011
2:00 p.m., Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room**

Members Present: A. Biswas, L. Buis, A. Butler, A. Cano, M. Clark, T. Edwards, D. Ellis, K. English, J. Green, D. Haase, B. Li, A. Mathur, M. Neely, R. Pauley, H. Ratner, L. Schwiebert, R. Sundick, K. Thompson, C. Waites, C. Winston, A. Yaprak, J. Yoon

Members Absent
with Notice: J. Casida, A. Duggan, A. Dutta, A. Kowluru, G. Mao, D. Onolemhemen, A. Suits, Y. Xu

Members Absent: J. Abt, M. Anderson, J. Davis, P. Dubinsky, S. Ilmer, B. Neavill, J. Stoltman

Also Present: J. Fouladbakhsh, A. Hudson, K. Lueckeman

The meeting was convened at 2:05 p.m. by the new Chairperson, Dean Ratner, who is also the Vice President for Research. Dean Ratner welcomed members and said she was pleased to serve as chair of the Graduate Council. She said the Provost's realignment of the Graduate School with the Research Division presents some opportunities. She asked members to introduce themselves.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of January 19, 2011.

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Dean Ratner said that when the Graduate School was previously with the Research Division, they functioned as separate units. She would like to implement a strategic planning process around the questions: How can we leverage the fact that these two units are now combined? What does it mean for the Graduate School and for the Division of Research? What can we do differently? She would like to involve representatives of the Graduate Council, graduate directors, Faculty Research Advisory Committee, associate deans, deans, graduate students, perhaps the Research Committee of the Academic Senate. Some areas that have been suggested already are: recruitment and retention with the aim of improving the quality of students; best practices in these; use of NRC rankings to develop plans for enhancing and strengthening programs; greater use in recruiting of our research achievements and placements of students; enhancing efforts to help students secure their own external funding; differences in master's programs and how they relate to doctoral programs.

Members responded to Dean's Ratner's request for further ideas: Research funding for students, development of faculty to prepare for obtaining training grants, and access to the data required to apply for these; grant and fellowship writing workshops for students; summer research opportunity programs for undergraduates and newly admitted graduate students; exploration of the role of master's programs; promotion of funding opportunities for the humanities; promotion of postdoctoral opportunities.

Dean Ratner reported that Associate Dean Mathur will chair the New Programs and Academic Standards Committees along with other duties. Joe Dunbar, Associate Vice President for Research,

will oversee the diversity programs at the Graduate School, including the McNair Scholars, AGEP, and King-Chavez-Parks programs. The Provost has asked the Graduate Council to review the criteria for Graduate Faculty appointments; the Academic Standards Committee is examining the issue.

In response to a question about the role of research in the appropriations cuts, Dean Ratner said research is an investment and is challenged by the tight budget. The Research Division will have to take its share of cuts but will protect the infrastructure by aiming for efficiencies without hurting services. Some cuts have already been made. The key to research funding is the hiring and support of full-time, tenure-track faculty. There is a high correlation between number of faculty and research ranking. WSU ranks 13th out of 15 Michigan public universities in the number of full-time, tenure-track faculty. The Provost and President are both committed to continuing hiring faculty. Appropriately funded, high quality graduate students are another key faculty support.

Another area suggested for exploration was entrepreneurship initiatives, especially in relation to TechTown, and opportunities for graduate student participation. Student intellectual property rights was also suggested for discussion.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES IN HEALTHCARE Judith Fouladbakhsh, College of Nursing

Professor Fouladbakhsh explained that complementary and alternative therapies (CAM) are a group of diverse medical and healthcare systems, practices and products that are not presently considered to be a part of conventional medicine. Complementary therapies are used in conjunction with conventional treatment; alternative therapies are used instead of conventional treatment. Integrative care incorporates evidence-based CAM therapies into conventional treatment; centers in southeast Michigan exist at Beaumont, Henry Ford, Karmanos and St. John's hospitals. Because CAM products and practices are used in self-care (for health promotion, prevention of disease, and symptom management of disease), they have a continuing influence on nursing practice and need to be understood by healthcare providers to maximize overall positive health outcomes. The number of CAM therapy users is huge and rapidly growing, and a significant population of users exists in southeast Michigan. Many CAM therapies have absolutely no research in support of their effectiveness; other CAM therapies have a wealth of research in support of their efficacy.

The proposed Certificate program aims to increase the understanding of the philosophical and historical underpinnings of CAM, to increase the understanding and application of the evidence base of selected CAM therapies, and to understand CAM practices and products for health promotion, illness prevention and symptom management in chronic illness. It is distinct in that it focuses on 1) advanced practice nurses and other healthcare providers, 2) research evidence, and 3) integration of complementary therapies into clinical practice.

The 14 credit Certificate consists of three courses, each containing a didactic and a clinical component. The Foundations of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NUR 7865, 3 cr.), an existing course, focuses on theoretical, physiological and cultural perspectives; use and assessment of CAM therapies and their safety, benefits, and interactions. Understanding the Evidence: Complementary Therapy Research (NUR 7870, 4 cr.) is a new course focused heavily on research and includes the policy implications of research findings. Complementary and Alternative Medicine Therapies (NUR 7875, 5 cr.), a new course, extends the examination of implications of CAM therapies; provides an in-depth exploration of the evidence related to selected therapies; and includes a clinical component assessing patient use of a CAM therapy. The program will not require any additional resources. The first course is an existing course, a part of a master's curriculum. The College already has faculty with the expertise to teach the other two courses, and these will fit into faculty workload arrangements.

Professor Fouladbakhsh responded to members' questions. The CAM material cannot be infused into current course work because the field is too large. Because students in the program will be required to evaluate evidence, knowledge of statistics and research design is required. Students are evaluated at entrance for their statistical background, and additional coursework may be recommended. Students read original journal articles and are expected to evaluate the evidence these present. In practice, traditional medicine and CAM are collaborative, and best practices can include some evidence-based CAM procedures, especially in oncology. Nurses typically take the lead in learning of patients' use of CAM products and procedures. Licensure in CAM is not available, and there is no national accreditation available for programs. There is some interchange with other units in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Complementary Therapies in Healthcare.

B. MANDATORY ENROLLMENT FOR PRE-CANDIDACY PHD STUDENTS

The Academic Standards Committee brought forward a proposal that would require pre-candidacy Ph.D. students to register for at least one graduate credit in a semester in which they use university resources, such as when they take Qualifying Examinations. A brief discussion indicated that access to library resources was important and that enrollment brings more student engagement with the program.

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the following proposal: During the pre-candidacy stage, registration is required in all semesters in which the Ph.D. student uses university resources, including the semester(s) in which the Qualifying Examinations is taken. The student must register for minimum of one graduate credit.

C. DISSERTATION REVISIONS STEMMING FROM THE DEFENSE

This proposal from the Academic Standards Committee brought together three separate issues involving dissertation revisions: the requirement for dissertation committee members to attest that the dissertation is ready for the Defense, completion deadlines for each semester, and communicating to the Graduate School satisfactory completion of revisions. Discussion revealed that, while major revisions to a dissertation should not have to be requested at the Defense, faculty sometimes do not receive a copy of the dissertation far enough in advance of the Defense to have their concerns addressed prior to the Defense. If a committee member refused to sign the Defense form because s/he had not had been given adequate time to read the dissertation, the Defense would be delayed. It was suggested that it would be appropriate that there be consequences for the student who does this.

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the following motion, effective Fall 2011:

Dissertation Readiness for the Defense. Dissertation committee members must be mindful that signing Part 1 of the Defense form indicates their assessment that the dissertation is ready for the Defense. Under no circumstances should a committee member sign Part 1 of the Defense form if s/he has not read the dissertation. A pre-Defense meeting of the student and whole committee is recommended, allowing committee members to indicate their concerns regarding the dissertation and the student to make needed revisions. Consequently, no requests for major revisions of the dissertation should arise at the Defense.

PhD Completion Deadline. Each semester the Graduate School establishes a PhD completion deadline, by which time all work must be completed and all required documents submitted, if the PhD degree is to be awarded that semester. Any dissertation revisions stemming from the Defense must be finished by the completion deadline for the semester.

Communicating Dissertation Revision Requirements. To communicate to the Graduate School that revisions to the dissertation were requested at the Defense, a box will be added to the Defense form that indicates "Changes Required." The dissertation advisor should not sign the dissertation cover page until the student has made all required revisions. Submission of the cover page to the Graduate School will indicate that the student has made the revisions satisfactorily.

IV. GRADUATE COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Loren Schwiebert reported that the Registrar has asked for graduate input on a proposal that would limit the time in which students may add classes and withdraw from classes. The add period would be restricted to the end of the first week of classes, from the current two weeks. The withdrawal deadline will be moved from the end of the 14th week of classes to the end of the 10th week of classes. Faculty members will be able to make exceptions. Executive Committee approved the course policy changes. Council members recommended that the Registrar's Office publicize the new policy and send students reminders. The Registrar's Office will provide the deadline dates for adds and withdrawals each semester.

B. NEW PROGRAMS AND PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

Krista English reported that the Committee reviewed and approved a proposal from the Pharmaceutical Sciences Department to add Plan B (essay option) to its master's program. A proposal from the same department to adopt the Clinical and Translational Sciences dual title program is currently under review.

V. OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. GRADUATE ENROLLMENT SERVICES

Kathleen Lueckeman reported that, compared to the same time last year, applications and admits are up for both Spring/Summer and Fall. Summer: applications up 128%, admits up 60%. Fall: applications up 82.3 %, admits up 48%. There are more applications for each term at this point than for all 2010 Summer and Fall. However, registration of continuing students is down. The colleges with declines have been contacted; strategies for enrollment will be discussed.

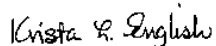
B. UNIVERSITY LIBRARY LIAISON

Anne Hudson reported that the Dean of Libraries has been reviewed. The faculty liaison initiative has been very successful. The library survey results are now in, and the library plans to continue working with undergraduate and graduate students to improve their library experience.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Krista L. English
Secretary of the Graduate Council