Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 18, 2017
2:00 p.m., David Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room


Members Absent


Also Present: C. Somers, S Auerbach

The Meeting was convened at 2:06 p.m. by Dean Ambika Mathur.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of September 20, 2017 with amendment to attendance for Dr. John Rothchild and Dr. Alina Cherry.

II. REPORTS OF THE CHAIR AND OLD BUSINESS

A. Recruitment

- Dean Mathur states that the losses of prior enrollment at the graduate level are primarily due to international master’s students. Short-term solutions for winter 2018 and longer term plans are in the works with support from the College of Engineering.
- These plans include reaching out to not only international but domestic students by increasing domestic pipelines, reaching out across states and focusing on states that have more undergraduates graduating than they have professional graduate programs.
- Dean Mathur requested other thoughts be gathered and brought to the next graduate council meeting.
Implementation of these strategies need to start soon as recruitment cannot rely on international applications given the changes in the political climate.

Dean Mathur mentioned WES application fee reimbursement during the second semester enrollment. This would prevent losing money if a student comes to Wayne and after one semester goes elsewhere.

Dr. John Rothchild asked the amount of the fee and whether it is enough to affect a student’s decision to stay at Wayne or leave.

Dean Mathur responded that the fee is $135 and that it wouldn’t sway the decision but it would save the university money.

Dean Mathur states that as seen from previous presented data, GRE scores do not correlate with career outcomes and it doesn’t make sense for the Graduate School to be using them. Programs that require quantitative skills early on may ask for that information but it would be removed from the admissions portal.

Dr. Christy Chow asked if the category could be optional in situations where it would benefit the student applicant like a low GPA.

Dean Mathur responded that the applicant could provide it with the supplemental materials. The importance of removing it as an option so applicants won’t feel like an absence of a GRE score will be used against them.

Dean Mathur recommends a change to the AGRADE GPA requirement for Admission. Current requirement is 3.6 with reason that the students are coming in with one less year of being prepared. The GPA is lowered for a grad school minimum of 3.25 and the departments can have program specific GPA’s.

Changing the GPA requirements would open it up to more students who could otherwise just wait a year and then apply with a 3.0. Student-centered ways of thinking that help students save money, be done faster and make the programs look better.

Dr. Heather Dillaway raised the concern of the students not starting the program with an A but instead a B+. The concerns stated were whether or not they will finish and whether or not they will run into any roadblocks. Dean Mathur agreed that the GPA should be 3.30 instead of 3.25.

Dean Mathur suggested in response that it be run as a pilot for 4 years and assess the outcomes at that point. The grad school minimum would change but program by program decisions would be individualized.

It was asked if there was a way to assess the performance of the current students. Dean Mathur responded that at the Graduate School level it’s the schools and colleges that track the master’s students.

It was asked if the lowering of the GPA would impact the other AGRADE requirements such as the number of credits required.

Dean Mathur responded that the credit requirement would remain the same.

B. Micro Credentialing Update and Graduate and Postdoctoral Professional Development Seminars

Dean Mathur reviewed the Micro-Credentialing program. Even though it is aimed at doctoral students, the credentials are open to everybody attending. Post-docs, master’s
students, undergraduates, some faculty and staff have also participated in these seminars.

- The Graduate and Post-doctoral Professional Development Seminar series is now aligned with these competencies. The students could show that they have mastered or acquired skills in that particular skill set with an electronic badge called a micro-credential. Credly issues those badges once the students have shown their competency with different evaluation processes and its being deemed to be acceptable by the Graduate School.

- Associate Dean Cano explains that a micro-credential is not just a participation ribbon. Work is produced and has to pass some criterion to show the participant has mastered a beginning level skill and in some cases advanced skills. Once an attendee has done this, the participant will be emailed the badge which can be linked to LinkedIn or another platform.

- It contextualizes the products that are being shown, which is very good in terms of helping students sell their skills and be able to market their skills to diverse employers.

- The first seminar had 80 people in attendance which is a record for the GPPD series. People who went on to claim badges were in the 50s and 60s. The numbers continue to be good in terms of attendance and earning the credentials.

- Question was raised regarding who was reviewing the submitted material and evaluating it. Associate Dean Cano responded that it is often the person leading the seminar who are usually faculty members. More faculty participation is needed which would help expand the expertise in different areas.

- Associate Dean Cano remarked how this would be good for recruitment as Wayne is one of the few programs doing it at the graduate level. The students can get not only their research and the disciplinary knowledge, but they can also acquire all these professional development transfer of skills that employers can see.

- The importance of this program is based on data analysis of information given from both alumni and employers.

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### III. NEW BUSINESS

**A. Proposal to Establish a PhD in Counseling Psychology**

- Associate Dean Cano introduced the PhD in Counseling Psychology which would be a new degree program for the Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Psychology in the Theoretical and Behavioral Foundations division in the College of Education effective Fall 2018.

- The PhD in Counseling Psychology is a program to prepare practitioners for a full licensure as doctoral level psychologists in the State of Michigan. There is only one other PhD program in Counseling Psychology in the State of Michigan and there is a need for practitioners trained with a full psychologist’s license.

- The mission of the program is to prepare professionals to effectively work to enhance the healthy development of mental health in children, adolescents and adults in a variety of clinical educational and research settings.

- Graduates of the program would primarily engage in the practice of psychology in clinics, hospitals, community mental health agencies, teach at the college or university level, and
work in research. Students who complete the degree requirements of this program will be eligible to apply for licensure as a psychologist in the State of Michigan.

- Dr. Rothchild raised a question about the distinction between counseling psychology and clinical.
- Dr. Cheryl Sommers responded that counseling psychology has a strong emphasis on daily problems, anxiety, depression and other day to day types of problems. Both are trained in psychotherapy, in research at the PhD level, and same licensure. APA accreditations are separated.
- Question was raised why not just expand the current enrollment in the current program in Clinical Psychology? Dr. Sommers replied that there is different faculty with different backgrounds. Heavy marriage and family emphasis in the Master’s level Counseling Psychology program that they plan on bringing to the doctoral level program.
- The Clinical Psychology program only admits 7 out of 200 applications a year. Counseling Psychology would probably admit 14 a year.
- The program would have about a 70% shared variance but each with its own unique clinical focus which makes it enough to warrant a different subspecialty.
- Dr. Sharon Lean asked if the classes are already staffed and if there is enough faculty to teach the pool of students that want to be in this new program. Dr. Sommers responded that there is no new classes, classes are being used from the Psychology Department and Counselor Education. Statistics are already in existence. The Master’s in counseling psychology is the foundation for the program.
- It was asked if the program could run immediately if it would be accredited immediately. Dr. Sommers stated that yes as nothing else needs to be added the program. The accreditation comes after seven years. Students have to come to the program with the hope that it will get accredited. It’s high pressure because submitting data on student progress on every level of matriculation is required.
- Dr. Sommers states that the APA has a program in place now that will guide you through the accreditation process.
- Dr. Dillaway asked if clinical psychology students could also take the counseling psychology courses. Dr. Sommers responded that there is a history of communication between herself and Dr. Doug Barnett. No student has taken any course yet but it remains a possibility.
- Dr. Dillaway mentioned that tracking resources with new programs, that pull on existing programs, it is important to spell out which program is using what resource.
- MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the establishment of a new degree program for a Doctor in Philosophy in Counseling Psychology in the Theoretical and Behavioral Foundations Division in the College of Education, effective Fall 2018.

B. Graduate and Postdoctoral Research Symposium

- Cindy Sokol stated that the date is Tuesday, March 6th.
- Dean Mathur stated the importance of having judges across the disciplines and for everyone to encourage doctoral and post-doctoral students to participate.
- C. Sokol stated that emails went out to the Completion and Development Rumbles giving them until October 31st to submit an abstract. Completion is required and Developments are encouraged. After the deadline, it will open up to all doctoral, masters and post-docs.
• Dean Mathur reiterated that judges tend to fall short and asked for the word to spread on participation in that realm.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee
• Dr. Jeff Pruchnic stated the Executive Committee met on October 2nd where changes to the GRE requirements were discussed. In that discussion, Dean Mathur reported that she had also discussed the issue at the Council of Deans and there were no objections to that change. That will go to a vote at their next meeting.
• The Responsible Conduct for Research seminar is a one-day seminar that all new PhD students undertake. There were some concerns communicated to the Graduate School that at least some students in the Humanities and Social Sciences are having difficulty making clear connections between the research they are doing and their disciplines with the training that takes place at the RCR.
• Executive Committee discussed creating a committee that includes grad directors from those disciplines to consult on possible changes to the content of the RCR and to press more aggressively recruit presenters from those disciplinary groups.

B. New Programs Committee
• Associate Dean Cano stated it’s the time of year to be looking at programs. There had been a further review of a dual titled program in the School of Medicine. Also reviewed programs in Engineering, Liberal Arts and Science and Fine, Performing, Communication Arts.

C. Academic Standards Committee
• Associate Dean Andrew Feig stated that Academic Standards is talking about a policy change associated with the time that people submit their Plan of Work. Policy is still being revised but there should be one to review at the next Grad Council meeting.

D. Graduate Admissions
• Dean Mathur stated that graduate admissions remains the same and reinforces the need to work on recruitment.

E. Budget Committee
• Dr. Tim Stemmler stated that the GenEd Proposal and discussion about who will pay for instructors for classes were a main topic of discussion.
• The budget for funding for housing was discussed. Graduate student housing and the absence of it was discussed and raised questions on whether or not this could be brought back. It is thought to be beneficial.

F. Curriculum and Instruction Committee
• Dr. Sharon Lean stated that this committee met multiple times to get a proposal in front of the Academic Senate before an upcoming Board of Governors meeting when they were hoping to vote the GenEd proposed changes in.

• There are three issues of concern to the committee. First, was to suggest back to the Academic Senate that they push for some continued language changes on what is, in effect, the math requirement. The second piece that the committee broke into subgroups to address was the proposed Wayne Experience course. The final piece had to do with the August proposal made the global and US diversity courses an either/or option.

G. Academic Senate

• Dean Mathur stated that the GenEd was the majority of the conversation with some talk about the ongoing issues with the School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics.

• Graduate enrollment was also a topic of discussion.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Sokol

Manager of the Graduate Council