



GRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held October 18, 2019

Present: Dean Sridhar, Professors Arndt, Porter, Sparks, Kothapalli, Kim, Kosteas, Matcham, Kumar, Allensworth-Davies, Registrar Representative Nina Cook, Student Representative Nathan On

Absent/Excused: Associate Dean Schultheiss, Professors Pourdavood, Falk, Tayyara, Carnell, Sola, Quinn, Shukla, Ekelman, Hatch, Library Representative Diane Kolosionek, Registrar Kevin Neal

Dr. Sridhar started the meeting @ 10:02 a.m. Since some Council members were in attendance for this meeting but not the first one he asked everyone to introduce themselves again.

1. Approve Agenda –The Revised Agenda moved one item to the New Business category. The Revised Agenda was approved.

2. Approve minutes – September 12, 2019

- ❖ At the last meeting there were several discussion items. Dr. Sridhar quickly reviewed them. One result from the September meeting was to have David Easler attend a meeting to discuss enrollment initiatives. He will be invited to the November meeting.
- ❖ **A motion was made, seconded and the September minutes were approved as written.**

3. New Business

- ❖ Curriculog proposals
 - The Health Care Administration specialization of the MBA degree is revising the program by removing courses that have not been offered in a long time and updating the curriculum to reflect current offerings.
 - Companion proposals involve several HCA courses currently in Curriculog also. We have requested syllabi for two of those courses.
 - Dr. Sridhar explained that we can pass the proposal and courses once the requested syllabi are received. It was felt that the syllabi were most likely included in the College review and were inadvertently omitted from the Curriculog proposal.
 - In discussing the Health Care Administration proposal, a question came up about a particular course and reference to an economics part.
 - **A motion was made to approve the proposal conditionally in order to wait for the course syllabi. Once syllabi are received, the proposal will be moved on. This was seconded and passed, with one abstention.**
- ii. Graduate courses in Curriculog – for review
 - **A motion was made to approve the list of courses, holding back HCA 585 and HCA 589 until syllabi are received. The motion passed unanimously.**
- iii. Draft GRE International proposal
 - The draft document is presented to look at the use of standardized test scores in graduate admissions. There are two parts to the proposal.
 - 1. A revision to the Graduate Catalog language concerning applicants with degrees from non-U.S. institutions will better reflect current practice.
 - 2. The second part looks at test waivers.
 - Discussion items included:

- departments may have experience from certain institutions rather than a particular country of very good students that they may provide a waiver to help with cost
- the Registrar's office ran data relating graduating students and their standardized test scores at admission; there is little to no correlation between scores received and success in graduate programs
- there have been discussions across the nation on the use of standardized tests for admission and the relation to diversity
- a Council member feels standardized test scores are indicative of success when you look at individual sections, not the overall score—students are prepared, committed and successful
- another suggested language such as, "GRE waivers are done on an exceptional basis or on a case-by-case basis," rather than programs changing their current policies or making general waivers
- Dr. Sridhar clarified that he is mostly looking at the Master's program applicants for this proposal. CSU makes good, holistic decisions for the doctoral programs. With the larger number of Master's applicants, decisions are often based on test scores and excluding a large number of possible students.
- It was decided to add a sentence about GRE scores being recommended
- The point of the proposal is that if waivers are granted for some students, it should be made available to all students, regardless of GPA or country of origin. At this point, the Graduate College is not asking all programs to change their admission criteria.
- A phrase will be added to the second proposal item such as, "standardized test scores are often used to strengthen an application."
- It will also be clarified that the 3.0 GPA requirement for waivers is a placeholder, and that individual programs will specify the GPA level for their programs.
- There was a consensus that students should be treated equally.
- **A motion was made to approve the proposal with the two additions to the language. The motion passed with three abstentions.**

4. Graduate Council Representation & Standing Committees – Available reports

- a. Faculty Senate
 - No graduate curricular items for vote; one information item on the Master of Computer & Information Science
 - HLC accreditation prep meeting have begun
 - Provost's office has been reviewing certificate programs; several have not had students complete in the last few years
 - The Provost has sent criteria for a new certificate to UCC which includes: 1) the certificate adds new skills, 2) it will help recruit non-CSU students, and 3) it should be an enhancement of a graduate program
- b. University Admissions & Standards – no report
- c. University Curriculum Committee
 - Curriculog proposals already passed through Council were reviewed
- d. Graduate Faculty Review Committee
 - Deadline to submit is Monday, Oct. 21
- e. Petitions Committee
 - Nine petitions were reviewed in September
- f. Grade Dispute Committee
 - None pending
- g. Program Review Committee – no report
- h. University Research Council

- NSF has a program called the Graduate Research Fellowship Program. In collaboration with the Research office a series of four workshops were conducted with graduate students to help with writing proposals. Graduate College has given \$500 each to those students who actually apply for the grants.
- i. Graduate Student Awards Committee
 - The deadline is November 1st. All are encouraged to nominate their eligible students.
 - The 3MT competition deadline is December 2

5. Discussion items

- ❖ A draft of the catalog information for application of credits for multiple degrees was presented.
 - i. This discussion has also been occurring with the CCGS institutions; language will be added to the CCGS Guidelines soon
 - ii. A point was raised about a possible number of transfer credits added to the 10 double-counted credits
 - iii. A question came up about “doctorate” being added to the first point (A) and “doctoral degree” being included in the second point (B). It is unclear. Dr. Sridhar asked for anyone with different suggestions of the language to email Maribeth and a second reading will be done.

6. Items for future discussion

- ❖ The School of Nursing will be revising their graduate faculty status guidelines. The representative had heard the entire process for status was changing. (It is not).

7. Next Meeting: Monday, December 2 @ 1:00 p.m. in PH 104

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.