

GRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held September 15, 2021 via Zoom

Present: Dean Holcomb, Associate Dean Kosteas, Professors Porter, Smith, Phillips, Zhang, Sun, Matcham, Weyman, Wukich, Resnick, Hamlen Mansour, Xiaobo He

Dean Holcomb called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

- 1. Approve Agenda** – The meeting agenda was **approved**
- 2. Approve Minutes**
 - a. April 19, 2021 – The minutes were **approved**
- 3. New Business**
 - a. Curriculum proposals
 - **Physics, Accelerated 4+1 BS/MS** – the program change was **approved**
 - Reduce number of double-counted credits from 12 to 11
 - Program description change so there is no mention of specializations
 - Updated admissions requirements and procedures - outdated in the catalog
 - **Physics, MS** – the program deactivation was **approved**
 - Optics and Medical Imaging specialization being deactivated
 - **Physics, MS** – the program change was **approved**
 - Applied Physics specialization added to program
 - **Biology, Accelerated 4+1 BS/MS** – the program change was **approved**
 - Reduce number of double-counted credits from 12 to 11
 - Changes to catalog language to correct misstatements
 - **Chemistry, Accelerated 4+1 BS/MS** – the program change was **approved**
 - Modifications to align with ODHE/State requirements for accelerated 4+1 programs – reduce number of double-counted credits from 12 to 11
 - **Doctor of Nursing Practice, DNP** – the program change was **approved**
 - Reduction in credit hours required for the program from 61 to 38-47 (23-37% credit hour reduction)
 - Deletion of two courses where content is covered in MSN
 - Eliminating requirements for NUR 887(Directed Leadership Practicum) if credit received for clinical hours in MSN
 - Eliminating one 3CR elective
 - Decreasing NUR 899 from 3CR to 1CR each time course is repeated
 - **Nursing/Business Administration, MSN/MBA** – program deactivation was **approved**
 - Discontinue program due to low enrollment
 - **Social Work, MSW** – the program change was **approved**

- Remove requirements for SWK 501 & SWK 508 for Advanced Standing SW students thus reducing credit hour requirement from 36 to 30
- Reduce PIC courses required for Advanced Generalist program to one and increase electives to two
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- b. Courses in Curriculog for approval
 - ESE 537-Supervision and Management in Behavior Analysis - **Approved**
 - (3 CR) New course
 - MUS 693-Music Therapy Graduate Capstone - **Approved**
 - (1-3 CR) Credits, Repeat status revisions
 - NUR 530-Health Assmt. Strategies of the School Aged Child: Strategies for Nursing Practice
 - (3 CR) Make inactive – **Approved**
 - UST 653-Ecological Landscape Planning and Management – **Approved**
 - (4 CR) Description, Prerequisite and/or Corequisite revisions
 - UST 753-Ecological Landscape Planning and Management – **Approved**
 - (4 CR) Description, Prerequisite and/or Corequisite revisions
 - UST 554-Sustainable Cities and Regions
 - (4 CR) Description, Prerequisite and/or Corequisite revisions, Crosslist
 - **GC members felt no need for this and did not vote to approve**
 - UST 654-Sustainable Cities and Regions
 - (4 CR) New course
 - **GC members felt no need for this and did not vote to approve**

4. Graduate Council Representation & Standing Committees --- Available reports

- a. University Admissions & Standards
 - Madalynn Wendland has volunteered, but Faculty Senate secretary believes Jose Sola still has one more year left on his term – however he is no longer on Grad Council
 - Do we allow Jose Sola to continue and provide reports to GC from UCC, or fill the position with someone on GC as has been done historically?
 - We will have to investigate this further before making a decision
- b. Faculty Senate
 - COVID related issues were discussed, as well as CSU decision for no vaccine mandate
 - Provost said (no vaccine mandate) was based on study of mandates and policy research showing that mandate would not be effective if it couldn't be highly enforced, so instead will be offering incentives
- c. University Curriculum Committee
 - We need a GC rep for this – maybe Madalynn Wendland would agree if decide Jose Sola will remain as rep
- d. Graduate Faculty Review Committee
 - The list of applicants who had status expiring in Summer 2021 was presented with recommendations from the Committee – **Approved**
- e. Petitions Committee – have not met yet
- f. Grade Dispute Committee – no disputes received so far this semester
- g. Program Review Committee - reviewers lined up
- h. University Research Council Committee
 - GC rep needed, please email John or Bill if willing to serve
- i. Graduate Student Awards Committee

- Meeting scheduled to review timeline, ways to promote awards program

5. Discussion items

- a. Extending the GRE waiver beyond Summer 2022
 - Originally put into place because there were issues with people being able to take it, but that does not seem to be the case now
 - Individual graduate programs could take this opportunity to decide if it makes a difference if the GRE is required in terms of admission numbers and quality of students
 - Historically we leave it up to the programs - this is not a Grad College requirement
 - Distinction here for GRE waiver related to COVID issues and related to DEI/diversity, equity, and inclusion issues
 - GC voted to extend the GRE waiver to Summer 2023 – **Approved**
- b. Proposed updates to Graduate Grade Dispute policy
 - Revisions made because dispute didn't fit our current policy and it felt like the student was wronged in some way
 - The goal here is to allow the Committee to right a wrong if they feel the student has been treated unfairly. The current policy would not allow the Committee to find in favor of the student but with the proposed changes they would be able to do so.
 - ORIGINAL: Grade Dispute Procedure
 - In disputing a course grade, the burden is on the student to demonstrate that an error has occurred or that a non-uniform standard was applied in the assignment of the course grade.
 - PROPOSED: Grade Dispute Procedure
 - In disputing a course grade, the burden is on the student to demonstrate that one or more of the following applies: 1. An error has occurred in calculation of the grade. 2. The instructor fails to inform students of the basis for calculation of grades.* 3. A non-uniform standard was applied in the assignment of the course grade and/or the student, through no fault of their own, was not provided with the same opportunity to complete the requirements for the course as the other students. 4. A grading decision was based on a substantial and unreasonable departure from previously articulated standards. *As outlined in the syllabus template approved by Faculty Senate, course assignments and weights, and the basis for assigning grades must be clearly stated in the syllabus.
 - This is just intended as a first read so we can have further discussion at the next meeting

6. Updates/Announcements

- a. Graduate Strategic Enrollment Management process
 - Review graduate program offerings to determine which programs have capacity for more students and would like resources regarding marketing
 - Identify programs that need more faculty to meet the current demand
 - Look at how graduate assistantships fit into different programs needs and viability
 - Process initiated together with associate deans who will be reaching out within departments to speak with program directors on data collection and working on this
 - Try to think of the best ways to serve the populations we are trying to reach
- b. Change in use of T-grades (approved last spring)

- Removing the option of T-grades for thesis and dissertation courses – give a Satisfactory or Incomplete at the end of the term, rather than giving T-grades all the way until the end
- This was creating some problems for international students, especially those trying to switch between thesis and non-thesis and some other issues
- This was passed but there wasn't time to make all the updates needed to get it into effect for this fall
- The plan is to notify and educate all the faculty who would be impacted by this change, and then implement it once the Registrar's office is able to complete the back end work for all the courses that are impacted

7. Items for future discussion

- Graduate Faculty Status
 - In evaluating faculty for graduate faculty status, we are relying completely on the word of the faculty member when they submit their CV and application
 - Considering asking the department chair to weigh in on the faculty member's application to help the Committee evaluate the credentials submitted by the faculty applicant
 - We do this for part-time instructors and outside people serving on committees and felt it should not be considered unreasonable to do it for our own internal people. We hope it would not be a burden on the Chair because the Chair is familiar with the work.
- Outside faculty members for dissertation committees
 - Once CSU 2.0 realignment is complete, there will be fewer faculty who are outside the college

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

All materials for review before the meeting are available on the University Curriculog web site for access by Council Members. (<https://csuohio.curriculog.com/proposals>)