

APPROVED Minutes

UMD Graduate Council

March 31, 2017, 2 – 3pm | Darland 520

Approved April 14, 2017

Present: Robert Feyen (*Chair*; MEHS, MSEM), Dalibor Froncek (Math), Alan Roline (MBA), Mike Rother (Chem E, MEng), Paul Kiprof (Chem), Sanna Shields for Carlos Carranza-Torres (CivEng), Faith Loven (CSD), Haiyang Wang for Peter Willemsen (*Vice-chair*; CS), Julia Williams (MEd), Charles Rick (EdS), Lynn McGraw for Julie Ernst (EdD), Jing Bai (MSEE), Craig Stroupe (English), Amanda Rusin for Julie Ernst (MEEd), Nigel Wattus (Geology), Jennifer Liang (IBS), Debao Zhou (MSME), Richard Gran (Physics), Lake Dziengel (MSW), Tadd Johnson (MTAG), Randall Hicks (WRS), Erik Brown (AVC for Graduate Education and Research), Weibing Li (Student Representative; App/Comp Math)

Meeting was called to order at 2:00pm.

1. Approval of Minutes of March 17, 2017 meeting.

Motion to approve with corrections was made by Julia, seconded by Rik, and passed by a majority vote, with one abstention.

2. Announcements.

a. UMD Grad TALKS

The next talks are 4/4 (KSC 268), 4/11 (Library Rotunda), 4/25 (KSC 268)

b. Graduate and Professional Education Assembly, April 5

This meeting is available via webinar; information will be sent out by email. The topic is “Creating Inclusive Scholarly Communities.”

c. Commencement announcements

A sign-up form for hooder training will be sent out soon. Please inform the Grad Office if someone else will be hooding for your program. A last call for the Commencement attendance list has also gone out. Please check the list shared with your program one last time for any missing names or incorrect information (advisors, etc.). The program and seating arrangements are being finalized now, so we need to know about any changes right away.

d. Academic Program Content type in Drupal

Development of a new page type, called “content type” in Drupal, is moving forward. Programs will be asked to provide information for these pages as rollout draws closer.

3. GCTF and GSSF status report.

13 offers were made: 2 to CEHSP, 1 CLA, 1SFA, 2 SCSE (All-University programs), 7 SCSE for GCTF; 1 CEHSP, 2 SCSE (All-U), 2 SCSE. Many offers are still out; the deadline to respond is April 15. Erik extended his thanks to the review committee members for their work. All non-SCSE applicants who were nominated received an offer of some kind. A question was asked about how to get more nominations from non-SCSE programs. Members are invited to share their feedback with Erik or Bob. Concern was expressed that offers would be declined on April 15. There is a list of alternates, but these are not the

strongest candidates programs are trying to attract. A conservative number of offers was made in this pilot year, but perhaps more offers could be made next year.

4. Graduate Education Council nominations

A motion to approve Jennifer Liang as the UMD nominee to be placed on the GEC ballot was made by Craig, seconded by Julia, and passed by unanimous vote.

5. Update on assessment of Graduate Programs in preparation for accreditation visit.

Julia provided Graduate Council members with a list of steps for completing their program assessment reports, which are due in Compliance Assist by April 27. There was a question about the timeframe for data (in the form of student work/outcomes) to be used in determining program strengths and limitations in Category 2. Some programs have been gathering data for longer periods than others. Julia replied that the time period is typically 3 years, but this can be adjusted, and it may be shorter in this first year. Julia will provide an examples of how to complete an assessment report.

She also presented a rubric for a peer review of these reports to be used at the peer review meeting on May 5. Programs should list outcomes related to Category 2 on the Outcome Form, also provided, and should complete one form for each outcome in the category.

Julia clarified that the assessment report is about assessing student learning outcomes in Category 2, and the peer review meeting is to discuss the process of the assessment. Program assessment is a 3-year cycle. Category 2 is being assessed this year; next year will be Categories 1 & 3, and the following year will be Categories 4 & 5.

6. Changes to policy on “Application of Graduate Credits to Degree Requirements.”

Changes that were proposed last year and put up for public comment last summer are expected to be implemented. A time frame is not known yet, but may be as soon as Fall 2017. The revised policy would allow, for example, up to 8 credits taken in any other registration category, including undergraduate, to be applied to a Plan A Master’s degree program. Under the new policy, students would be required to document that the credits were not used to satisfy undergraduate degree requirements, and that the work done was of graduate-level rigor, even though 5xxx courses are by definition intended primarily for graduate students.

Programs may set restrictions, e.g., to not allow credits taken at the undergraduate level, and are advised to start thinking now about what they will allow, as the new policy could apply to students matriculating in Fall 2017. The current policy remains in effect for the time being.

Next scheduled meeting: Friday, April 14, 2017, 2 - 3pm, Darland 520

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

Minutes recorded by Kim Habig, Graduate School Office