

UMD Faculty Council
Tuesday, June 2, 2015
Approved Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Members Present: Bruce Pekham, Nigel Wattrus, Bedassa Tadesse, Robert Lloyd, Steve Mathews, Molly Harney, Paula Gudmundson, Roger Reinsch , Jennifer Webb, Marcus Seigar.

Members Absent: John Hamlin, Matthew Andrews, Evan Brier, Dalibor Froncek, Sherly Grana, Christopher McIntosh, Rudy Perrault, Jean Stevenson

Meeting called to order: 11:17AM.

Approval of Minutes: Steve Matthews moved, Jennifer Webb seconded, all were in favor.

Committee Reports:

- **Grad Council Report-** Dr. Wattrus reported that the ESLI program is coming to UMD. The council discussed the implications of this, in particular the waiver of the required TOEFL test for foreign grad school applicants. Admission to the ESLI program does not confirm admittance to a graduate program at UMD. Individual departments will still make the final decision on whether or not a student enrolled in the ESLI program is admitted to their graduate program. This is a one year program for potential international graduate students. If they don't meet requirement then they are sent back home. The ESLI program will be handling more undergraduates.
- The Grad Council discussed the future of the AVCGER position. They concluded that continuing to use one individual to oversee the two offices (Graduate Education and Research) is untenable given the direction UMD is going. The council developed a position statement that it forwarded to the EVCAA that supports the position being split into two new ones, each taking responsibility for one office. It recommended that the position overseeing the Office of Graduate Education be filled at 100% with a national search. The second position may not require a full-time appointment.

Discussion regarding transfer courses and using outside companies such as Straiterline, etc. There is concern over transfer courses being sent through as approved when department heads have not approved these courses. They are being approved by administration anyway.

- Faculty proposed to invite Carla Boyed or Sara Hattefield to discuss this issue at the next council meeting.

Curriculum Committee Report- N/A

New Business: There was discussion regarding the restructuring/dismantling of the Education Department.

- It was discussed that the Council would invite the CEHSP Dean to a future council meeting.
- Dr. Seigar proposed that the Council invite Andrea Shockker to speak n Higher Education.
- HLC on agenda for next meeting
- No communication from HR to department on searches post upgrade.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Peterson
Executive Office and Administrative Assistant
Department of Physics and Astronomy