

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Sherrick 114

Council in Attendance:

Alan Dyer, Chair (Agriculture)

Marc Giullian (Business)

Christopher Livingston (Architecture)

Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)

Ann Ewbank (Education)

John Borkowski, Vice-Chair (Sciences)

John Seifert (Health & Human Development)

Michael Babcock (Faculty Senate)

Timothy LeCain (Letters)

Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)

Also in Attendance:

Amanda Brown (The Graduate School)

Lauren Cerretti (The Graduate School)

Absent:

Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)

Meeting started at 1:04 p.m.

Oct 13, 2015 minutes

- Chair Dyer called for motion to approve, Babcock motioned, Livingston second, unanimous approval.

Announcements

- Updates on Faculty Senate issues (Babcock)

Old Business

- Funding and fellowship opportunities
 - Are the funding source restrictions locked? Were they always for PhD and STEM, only?
 - Meritorious and Presidential: to attract new graduate students
 - Meritorious (\$5k): majority of awards will go to STEM PhD students
 - Presidential (\$1k): majority of awards will go to STEM PhD students
 - PhD Enhancement: must be an existing PhD student
 - Research grants: both master's and PhD in any discipline
 - Travel grants: used to recruit new students in master's or PhD in any field or for current students to travel to professional conferences to present research findings
 - Ad-hoc committee (Seifert (added), LeCain, Borkowski, & Al-Kaisy) to make proposal to Graduate School for timing of award allocation. Committee to have proposal ready by next meeting (Nov 10).

New Business

- Interdisciplinary Doctoral degree (Hoo)
 - Dean Hoo (hand-out) proposal draft to authorize the creation of a new program: Customized Interdisciplinary Program (CIP) or Individualized Interdisciplinary Program (IIP).

- Similar programs exist at Univ. of Montana and other universities in the US & Canada.
- Not meant to have students apply for this degree, but it is possible with a carefully articulated plan; quality is very important
- May be used to allow graduate students with programmatic concerns to finish
- Students would have to meet more rigorous requirements: 3.5 GPA and committee consisting of three faculty plus Dean of Graduate School
- Students would have to apply and be approved by UGC
- Department and faculty would still provide all resources
- National Science Foundation (NSF) very supportive of cross-disciplinary education
- Request UGC support to continue to develop proposal and present to Board of Regents.
- Comments:
 - Interest could be bigger due to student interest in inter- and multi-disciplinary education
 - Regulation should be strong; agree quality is very important
 - Supportive of idea
 - NSF support is strong indicator
 - Should Grad School write two different proposals?
 - Should not be used as a stop-out degree option
- Interdisciplinary Master's of Science (Hoo)
 - Starting with PhD and will present master's proposal to BOR at later date

Committee Reports

- **Policy and Procedures Committee**
- **Curriculum Committee**
- **Governance Committee**
 - Request by Dean Hoo to revisit UGC by-laws vote regarding role of Faculty Senate member; vote
 - Chair Dyer calls for comments on the vote & issue
 - Q: was anything discussed last meeting that absent members missed?
 - A: minutes reflect any discussion
 - Chair Dyer calls for secret ballot and asks Dean Hoo and Faculty Senate member Babcock to exit room for vote
 - Chair Dyer reads voting slips to council and explains options
 - Council vote results: 3 reject, 6 approve. Faculty Senate ex-officio member is relieved of voting rights.
 - Next vote: to remove voting rights from ex-officio member Graduate School Dean. Giullian moves, Al-Kaisy second.
 - Vote results: unanimous approval, Shreffler-Grant will vote via email.
 - Review UGC by-laws regarding role of graduate student member; discussion

Chair Dyer adjourned at 2:01pm.