

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2014
Commons Panorama Room
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

X	Jie Chen	X	Jill Johnson	-	Sandra Reineke
X	Jerry McMurtry	-	Tim Link	X	Jon Van Gerpen
X	Courtney Conway	X	Scott Minnich	X	Greg Turner-Rahman
X	Grace Goc Karp	X	Ebenezer Jones-Mensah	X	Jane Weiss
X	Susan Irizarry	X	Gordon Murdoch	X	Tao Xing
-	Mary Gardiner	X	Diane Prorak		

- I. Approval of the minutes from March 26, 2014
 - Conway moved to approve. Seconded by Murdoch.
 - Approved with two abstentions.
- II. Announcements and reports
 - A. Innovation Showcase
 - McMurtry reported 2014 was the largest Innovation Showcase to date. If it gets any larger, it will have to be spread over two days.
 - Goc Karp suggested doing podcasts of the presentations.
 - B. Graduate Applications Update
 - They are up from this time last year.
 - Still processing admit decisions from colleges.
 - Still having issues with conversion. Chen asked Council to follow-up with their departments about this.
 - Chen reported the acceptance rate is 35%, which is a bit lower than our peers.
 - C. Exit Survey
 - McMurtry reported that COGS is hoping to get it to all graduate students before the end of the semester.
 - The goal is to have it tied to the application for degree by Fall 2014 and force 100% participation.
 - D. Reasons For Denial
 - Choices for reasons for denial will be added to the back of the routing sheet.
 - COGS wants to begin tracking reasons for denial.
 - Jones-Mensah asked if denied applications are kept for further consideration. McMurtry reported that students must reapply.
- III. Discussion
 - A. Political Science Curricular Changes
 - Brian Ellison joined the meeting to discuss proposed curricular changes. This item was moved to the top of the meeting to allow Ellison to get to another meeting.
 - Ellison explained in detail the MPA career and explained that the program at UI isn't really an MPA. It is in name only.

- There was lengthy discussion about the benefits of overhauling the current MPA program, including partnerships with city leadership, the possibility of paid internships, possibility of distance education opportunities in Lewiston and other communities.
 - Our biggest competitor is EWU.
 - Vote will happen at a later meeting.
- B. Certificate Application Language
- Council members expressed their disagreement with the rule that students must transfer courses from their undergrad transcript to be reserved for a graduate certificate by the tenth day of the semester in which they take the course.
 - McMurtry explained that UI is very liberal with moving courses between the undergrad and grad transcripts in comparison to peers.
 - Council members expressed concern with the rule that courses cannot be moved after the tenth day of the semester.
 - McMurtry explained this rule is to put a stop students from “shopping” their undergrad transcripts for courses to transfer to their grad program.
 - Council members asked why it is a problem to transfer after ten days.
 - McMurtry stated COGS would like to create guidelines for faculty and students to follow.
 - Questions asked:
 - Do certificates show up under “what if” section on degree audit? –Not sure.
 - Do these credits expire? What if a student earns ½ of the credits and works for 10 years and then decides to come back? –McMurtry/Chen said cases like this would be reviewed case-by-case.
 - Why does there need to be a graduate certificate vs. undergraduate certificate, instead of just certificate? – Chen said a graduate certificate is more valuable and includes graduate courses. Irizarry stated a graduate certificate is sort of like a “minor” at the graduate level.
 - Conway suggested a basic certificate and an advanced certificate, rather than undergrad and graduate. There would be no need to be in a graduate program to get the advanced certificate. More people would be eligible to take that option.
 - Council members suggested to remove the line about the tenth day.
 - Goc Karp moved to approve as amended, with the tenth day line removed. Seconded by Johnson. Approved as amended with one abstention.
- C. Defense Deadlines
- McMurtry announced that new thesis/dissertation defense deadlines will be implemented in the fall. More information will be given at the next meeting.

Future Meetings:

All meetings will be on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. Pacific time. Exact dates TBD.