

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2018 – 3:30-5:00 p.m.
IRIC 321**

X	Jerry McMurtry	X	Ben Hunter		Fahmid Tousif
X	Esmael Alyami	X	Jill Johnson	X	Greg Turner-Rahman
X	Julie Amador - phone	X	Gordon Murdoch	X	Daniel Strawn
X	Jeff Bailey	X	Kelly Quinnett		Elowyn Yager - phone
X	Laura Holyoke		Alistair Smith	X	Ata Zadehgol

- I. Approval of the minutes from January 31, 2018
 - Bailey suggested a few changes to make the intention of Graduate Council clearer in the minutes.
 - Hunter moved to approve. Seconded by Turner-Rahman.
 - Approved unanimously with changes.

- II. Announcements and Reports
 - A. Grad Recruitment Day
 - McMurtry reported that 30+ potential students are coming to campus for Grad Recruitment Day.
 - There is some money left for people to bring additional students prior to April 15. COGS has funds for 50 total students. He instructed members to let their departments know to contact COGS to find out if they are interested in bringing potential students to visit campus.
 - B. AGEP Research Meeting
 - McMurtry told councilmembers that UI-COGS is hosting the 2019 National AGEP Research Meeting in Coeur d’Alene in 2019.

- III. Discussion
 - A. FSH 1565 – Graduate Support Assistant
 - This language was kicked back by Faculty Senate with some additional language that they would like to see added to the document.
 - Johnson moved to approve. Seconded by Bailey.
 - Adjusted language was approved unanimously.
 - B. Additional Appointments for Graduate Assistants
 - McMurtry shared examples of students on campus who hold a full-time graduate assistantship and who are also working temporary help jobs, sometimes in excess of 40 hours per week.
 - He shared policies of regional and peer institutions.
 - Members had comments/questions:
 - Some liked WSU’s policy of only allowing GA’s to work 5 hours per week in a temp help position without having to get permission for an exception to the rule.
 - Q: how often does WSU give exceptions? A: not sure. McMurtry will try to find out.
 - Some feel as though we should not be too restricting. Students should be given flexibility. 40 hours/week and school is nothing for some students.

--Need to find a balance between what is reasonable and what is going to cause a lot of petitions/exceptions.
--We need to be sensitive to their issues. We cannot prevent them from working.
--One member suggested part of the issue might be policy enforcement. Another issue might be that departments are hiring GA's to be lecturers out of convenience.
--Warner gave an example from archaeology, where students are called upon to do a dig, and they need a 2-day turnaround.
--Murdoch gave an example of the milking person. She is a full-time RA, and she gets paid temp help to milk the cows for 2 hours per day/7 days per week.
--McMurtry said we need to prevent abuse of these students – need to find the “sweet spot.”
--McMurtry encouraged members to take this information back to their departments and bring feedback to a future meeting.

C. Continuous Registration

- McMurtry explained that students who take more than one year off from school require a reenrollment petition; students who take more than two years off require a readmission petition.
- McMurtry would like to:
 - shorten the window on requirement to do get readmitted after one year off.
 - create a cheaper option for the last semester.
 - limit the number of semesters that a student can take a reduced number of credits.
- This will be brought back at a later time.

D. Co-Major Professors

- McMurtry discussed the reasons people want co-major professors – for example, additional mentoring, recognizing outside expertise, research supported by an outside agency, interdisciplinary degree.
- Even with co-major professors, one person must be the “top” person for study plans and other approvals.
- If a student has a co-major professor, then one additional committee member is required – 4 for Master's and 5 for PhD.
- Members were in favor of crafting language to allow for non-graduate faculty.
- Language will be drafted and brought back to a future meeting.

E. Thesis and Dissertation Definitions

- Suggestion was made to remove the word “etc” from the statements.
- It was also suggested to change the order of sentences on the dissertation definition.

Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Future Meetings:

March 28

April 18

May 9

All meetings are on Wednesdays at 3:30-5:00 p.m. (Pacific) in IRIC 321.