

Minutes

Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies

April 3, 2013

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Graduate School Conference Room

Present: Ms. Shaimaa Abdallah, Mr. Mehmet Altin, Dr. Chad Bolding, Mr. Marc Brodsky, Dr. Karen DePauw, Dr. Kay Dunkley, Dr. Joe Eifert, Dr. Alireza Haghighat via videoconference, Dr. Bernice Hausman, Dr. Jennifer Hodgson for Dr. Gerhardt Schurig, Dr. Karen Hult, Mr. Mohammad Jalali via videoconference, Dr. Patrick Miller, Dr. Wayne Neu, Dr. Mayuresh Patil, Mr. Greg Purdy, Dr. Victoria Soghomonian, Dr. Dan Thorp, Dr. Linda Wallace

Absent with Notification: Mr. Jordon Booker, Ms. Nancy Dudek, Dr. Stephen Smith, Mr. Nicholas Vaught

Absent without Notification: Dr. Tyler Walters

Visitors and Invited Guests: Ms. Janice Austin, Dr. Steven Janosik, Dr. Janet Rankin

Dr. Mayuresh Patil, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the agenda: Approved. Dr. Patil reminded the commission that officers for next year need to be selected.

Approval of the minutes from March 20, 2013: Approved with minor changes.

Committee Reports

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC): The minutes from March 28 were accepted for filing.

Graduate Student Appeals: No appeals are pending.

Degree Requirements, Standards, Criteria, and Academic Progress (DRSCAP): No report.

Graduate Student Assembly: Ms. Shaimaa Abdallah reviewed activities of the GSA

- The Research Symposium was successful and GSA will be announcing the winners. The banquet has been moved to May 9th. Surplus monies collected from sponsors will be carried over to the next year.
- The travel fund is open; closes on April 8.
- GRPD is closed.
- Next meeting will have summary report of programs.
- “Dueling Pianos” on April 11 is a fund raising event and open to everyone.
- Elections are April 18.
- There was some discussion about expanding Northern Virginia’s participation in the symposium.

Graduate Honor System: Mr. Jordon Booker, GHS Chief Justice, submitted a written report: Since our last meeting, the Graduate Honor System has completed an appeal hearing and resolved a case through a facilitated discussion. There is one open case that is currently going through the facilitated discussion process. The honor system is also recruiting current student panelists for training as investigators. That process should be completed within the next few weeks. We will then recruit prospective facilitators.

University Library Committee: No report.

University Council: No report.

Graduate School Updates:

- 1800 faculty, staff and students participated in Graduate Education Week.
- An MOU with the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Tamilnadu Vet. And Animal Sciences University in Chennai, India has been signed.
- The Department of Communication has requested that their non-thesis option be eliminated.
- Dr. Rankin announced a graduate advising forum for faculty on April 16. Ms. Feuerbach will send the announcement to the commission members.
- SCHEV has determined that the interdisciplinary degree proposal does not need to go through a new degree proposal process.

Old Business: The Ph.D. in Translational Biology, Medicine and Health

The commission voted to approve the new degree proposal with three abstentions, two against. Dr. Patil will present commission feedback to the university president as documented in the minutes from March 20, 2013.

New Business:

First Reading: MAEd in Higher Education and PhD in Higher Education

Dr. Steve Janosik, Department Chair, School of Education, reviewed the degree proposals. The degrees require no new courses or resources.

Commission members were asked to review the membership list posted in scholar to determine who was eligible to serve as 2013-2014 chair and vice-chair.

Virginia Tech Academic Integrity Resolution: The commission reviewed the Commission on Student Affairs' (CSA) proposed Academic Integrity Resolution. The commission recommended that "codes" be changed to "code" since there are actually three separate codes of conduct at Virginia Tech. The code referenced in the resolution only applies to the undergraduate code of conduct. Dr. DePauw will have representatives to the CSA share the commission's concerns.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Ms. Nancy Feuerbach, on behalf of

Dr. Karen P. DePauw, Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education