

MINUTES

Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies

May 1, 2019

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Graduate School Conference Room

Present: John Hole (for Rajesh Bagchi, Chair), Lujean Baab, Nancy Bodenhorn, Karen DePauw (ex officio), Paul Emmons, Samantha Fried, Madlyn Frisard, Cynthia Hampton, Lesa Hanlin, Rachel Holloway (ex officio), Joseph Kozak, Anurag Mantha, Gail McMillan, Hannah Parks, Annie Pearce, Nick Rexroad, Devi Gnyawali (for Robert Sumichrast), Martina Svyantek, and Zhiwu Xie.

Absent with notification: Rajesh Bagchi, Mehdi Ahmadian, and Xin Luo.

Absent without notification: Alexis Hruby, Sarah Karpanty, Kathy Lu, Nick Rexroad, and Tyler Walters (ex officio).

Visitors and invited guests: Nicole Abaid, Jessica Agnew, Zo Amani, Janice Austin, Scott Case, Maria Elisa Christie, Kevin Edgar, Catherine Grimes, Ralph Hall, Bill Huckle, Jack Lesko, Shane Ross, Jake Socha, Pam VandeVord, Stefan Duma, and Zachary Gould.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Hole at 3:30 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as modified.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of April 17, 2019 were approved as presented.

Committee Reports

Graduate Curriculum Committee

The Graduate Curriculum Committee minutes of April 18, 2019 and April 25, 2019 were accepted as presented.

Graduate Student Appeals Committee

There was no report.

Degree Requirements, Standards, Criteria, and Academic Progress (DRSCAP) Committee

Dr. Bodenhorn reported that the wording on ESS will be updated. The discussion on revoking degrees was tabled and will be taken up next fall.

Old Business

The commission accepted the revised iPhD proposal for Michelle Yancey. Dr. Huckle will inform her of the approval and provide guidance moving forward.

New Business

Dr. Hole introduced Dr. Ross and his associates and presented background for the CUSP Resolution 2018-19E. While this resolution recommends the termination of the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics, there is a concern about the impact the elimination of the bachelor's program will have on the engineering mechanics graduate program. Dr. DePauw suggested that Dr. Hole should comment to University Council regarding the concerns presented to CGS&P by Dr. Ross and his associates. Of significance is the contribution of engineering mechanics to interdisciplinary research and study at Virginia Tech. Dr. Hole opened up discussion with the membership and will share the concerns and comments regarding graduate education at University Council.

Dr. Hole introduced Dr. Hall and his associates for their presentation and discussion about food access and security and homelessness on college campuses. Virginia Tech's study includes both qualitative and quantitative methodologies in the survey design. During the discussion, a variety of data sets were identified that are available and a tool that will allow further investigation of the data results. This topic will be included in the fall commission meeting.

Dr. Hole introduced the untaught course list from the Registrar of courses that will be inactivated. The list was accepted by the Commission.

Graduate School Update

Dr. DePauw reported on the fiftieth anniversary celebration in northern Virginia last week. The President and Provost attended as well as many campus representatives.

Constituency Updates

Graduate Student Assembly

Ms. Fried reported on the elections for next year. A discussion was held during the executive committee last week on the wording of the Principles of Community in regard to marginalized students.

Graduate Honor System

Mr. Mantha reported all cases have been resolved.

University Library Committee

Dr. Xie reported on the pilot in response to a study requested by CGS&P two years ago. The presentation will be added to SharePoint for the commission members' review.

Faculty Senate

Ms. McMillan had no report.

Student Government Association

There was no report.

Board of Visitors

Mr. Amani had no report.

University Council and Commission Updates

Dr. Huckle reported the MEng was approved at University Council.

There were no other commission updates.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Marilynn R. King
On behalf of Karen P. DePauw, Ph.D.
Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education