

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Graduate Council Minutes

February 20, 2014

Dempster 102, 8:30 a.m.

Members: Present: McAllister, presiding; Althaus, Bawaneh, Brown-Haims, Brune, Gathman, Heischmidt, Hosselkus, Mardanov, McCollum, McFerron, Odegard-Koester, Roberts, Walling, Wang. **Visitors:** Steve Hendry, Thor Welker, Jennifer Pennington

- A. Dr. McAllister called the meeting to order and introduced the three guests at the back of the room: Steve Hendry, Thor Welker and Jennifer Pennington. They are graduate students enrolled in Foundations of Higher Education. The course requires that students learn more about how a university operates, and in order to do this, student groups will be following the work of various committees on campus. (Dr. David Stader is the instructor for the course. President Dobbins is also teaching a few of the classes this semester.)
- B. Dr. McAllister asked for the approval of the minutes from January 23, 2014. Motion to approve (Gathman/Roberts). Minutes were approved by the Council.

C. Reports:

Dean –

Dr. McAllister's report addressed the following topics:

1. Graduate Faculty Status:

In response to clarification on Graduate Faculty Status, Dr. McAllister provided the following information:

a. Three classifications exist: Regular, Associate and Adjunct. Regular status requires a terminal degree; Associate is all but dissertation; Adjunct is a non-terminal degree along with equivalent experience. Regular and Associate faculty members may chair thesis committees.

2. GR 698/GR 699:

Currently the Graduate Bulletin indicates all departments require a student to take one of these courses. In an effort to determine whether other universities require a similar course, Dr. McAllister established a benchmark. He found there was about a 50/50 split in those he surveyed.

Discussion followed with Heischmidt noting those students who take GR 698 or GR 699 with other courses are not assessed a fee. However, if a student takes GR 698 or GR 699 as an only course, he/she is assessed a fee of one credit hour.

Brown-Haims stated if a student is enrolled in GR 698 or GR 699 and is not taking another course, he/she should pay the one credit hour fee to pay for the use of university resources.

McAllister mentioned he would meet with Michelle Brune and the Academic Standards Committee prior to the March meeting. They will work on language for departments to use if they choose to opt out of requiring GR 698 or GR 699.

3. **Definition of a Full Time Student:**
Dr. McAllister noted the Counseling Department needs their students to take 12 hours during the fall and spring semesters to be considered full time students. Currently, 9 hours in the fall and spring is considered full time. To address this change, the Registrar suggested modifications to the Graduate Bulletin indicating 9-12 hours is considered full time depending on the definition put forth by the department.
4. **Student Life and Leadership Award:**
Dr. McAllister noted nominations for this award are being accepted. He asked all interested in submitting nominations to send them to him by mid-March.
5. **Ad Hoc Committee for Accelerated Degree Program:**
Dr. McAllister asked for those members interested in serving on this ad hoc committee to contact him. The committee will be working with departments to suggest degree programs.
6. **Human Subjects Research:**
Dr. McAllister noted a vacancy will be open in the Fall. Elaine Jackson will be leaving this committee. He asked anyone who might be interested to contact him. Dr. McAllister stated this committee primarily focuses on institutional policy and procedure.
7. Dr. McAllister noted Matt Mardanov has agreed to fill the vacancy of committee chair for the Graduate Council-Assessment Committee.

Academic Standards:

Michelle Brune stated she had no report at this time.

Curriculum:

Ken Heischmidt noted all course comments/suggestions had been submitted.

Assessment:

Matt Mardanov had no report today due to very recently accepting the position of committee chair.

D. Informational Items:

1. Course for Electronic Vote:

a. EA 622 – Foundations of Higher Education II – Course Revision

Ruth Ann Roberts, Educational Leadership and Counseling, was present to present the need for this course revision. She stated the course needed updating because a major part of the content would now be dealing with shared governance. Along with this, the required textbook needed updating.

Gathman/Heischmidt moved to approve this course. Motion was approved by the Council with the addition of a grading scale.

2. Graduate Faculty Approved:

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| a. Jennifer Bengtson | Global Cultures and Languages | Regular |
| b. Larry Speight | English | Associate |

Meeting adjourned. (Heischmidt/McAllister)