# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

CHAIRED BY: David Kieda TIME: 3:00pm

DATE: October 27, 2014 PLACE: 300 Park

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Krishnan Anand, Connie Bullis, Tim Formosa, Susan Johnston, Laura Kessler, Winston Kyan, Robert Mayer, Paul Mogren, Ginny Pepper, Ryan Smith, Vanessa Stevens

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Yuanyuan Xie

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Barbanell, David Kieda, Abigail Ririe, Donna White

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Tim Garrett, Chuck Hansen, Glen Hanson, Nyce Keiyoro, Valeria Molinero, Sean Redmond, Mary Jane Taylor, Elham Yazdani

FINAL AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions

Dean Kieda welcomed the Graduate Council to the third meeting of the 2014-15 academic year. He also welcomed new student representatives: YuanYuan Xie, Nyce Keiyoro, and Elham Yazdani.

2. **Minutes of September 29, 2014 meeting**

Vote: Approved unanimously

Abstained: None

Comments: None

**3. Proposal: BS/MS Combined Program in Geographic Information Science**

Mary Ann Golightly, Academic Coordinator, and Andrea Brunelle, Chair, Department of Geography, presented a proposal for a combined BS/MS program in Geographic Information Science.

Vote: Approved unanimously

Abstained: None

Comments: If students decide to stop this new combined program, they can still obtain their bachelor’s degree.

There is a standing graduate committee built by departmental faculty who advise students. A supervisory committee is created the second semester of a student’s fourth year.

Ed Barbanell noted that five years ago this type of program only existed in the College of Engineering, but now it exists in many disciplines. In the future the Council may need to consider issues about content and integrity of the degrees, if this trend continues. Dean Kieda cautioned that due to the specialization many of these programs offer there may be a narrowed view available to the student and other specializations in the field might be lost.

This proposal has already gone through Undergraduate Council.

**4. Proposal: Juris Doctor/Master of City & Metropolitan Planning Dual Degree Program**

Keith Bartholomew, Associate Dean, College of Architecture + Planning presented a proposal for a Juris Doctor/Master of City & Metropolitan Planning dual degree program.

Vote: Approved unanimously

Abstained: None

Comments: Students have been requesting this program for a number of years, therefore it serves as a retention and recruitment tool.

Ed Barbanell questioned how differential tuition would work in this program. As the program is a strong recruitment tool for both the College of Architecture and Planning and the College of Law whatever may be lost in credit hour share is gained back by a stronger student pool. The desire is for these programs to model good academic citizenship. Differential tuition is not an issue as long as they do not offer joint courses. Donna White suggested adding a letter of agreement in the proposal noting how differential tuition will be managed. This proposal does not need to go to Board of Regents; because nothing new is being adding, instead, current offerings are being reorganized.

**5. Program Review:** Department of Bioengineering

Tim Formosa presented the review of the Bioengineering Department.

Vote: Approved unanimously

Abstained: None

Comments: The biggest issue presented is ownership of space, and which college (Engineering or School of Medicine) ultimately houses Bioengineering. There is some tension between the Dean of the College of Engineering and the Bioengineering Program. The program is in a sense living between two worlds and is currently housed in one space that feels inadequate. The Dean of Engineering did not provide a response to the reviewers’ reports.

Donna White said that the phrase “Some entity” in Recommendation One needs to be more specific. She suggested “Vice Presidents, Deans, and Chair.”

Ed Barbanell noted that there is a commendation for curriculum; however, Recommendation Five mentions optimizing course requirements. This seems incongruous. Tim Formosa explained that the two comments refer to undergraduate versus graduate curriculum.

Dean Kieda asked to see metrics on staff diversity.

Donna White also suggested using the terminology “historically underrepresented students.”

**6. Proposal: Name Change of MS in Mathematics (Teaching) to MS in Mathematics Teaching**

Herb Clemens from the Department of Mathematics presented a proposal for changing the name of the MS in Mathematics (Teaching) program to MS in Mathematics Teaching.

Vote: Approved unanimously

Abstained: None

Comments: The degree is not a Master of Science in mathematics. The content is primarily pedagogical for secondary-level mathematics teachers.

**7. Center Institute Bureau (CIB) - Guidance Document:**

Associate Dean Donna White again presented the CIB Guidance Document.

Comments: Laura Kessler proposed that existing CIBs housed entirely in a single department or college be reviewed as part of the regular 7-year program review cycle. Ed Barbanell commented that some centers are more peripheral to the departments, and they would not receive the same sort of scrutiny from the Graduate School. Donna White noted that the logistics of the review process are already very complicated and busy. Adding reviews of four or five centers would not be feasible. There is a passing mention of CIBs in the self-study outline, but this is not sufficient. There is also the concern about mismatched cycles of review (7 years versus annual). The question was raised about who determines whether the center is integral or not. Several chairs have requested that the reviews be separate. Cathy Anderson and Bob Flores agree that center reviews should be separated from department reviews. The Council could entertain the possibility of making an exception for certain centers.

Ryan Smith questioned whether the reviews would be able to unearth political issues, and if this is in fact part of the goal of the review process. He cautioned that department chairs might feel bypassed by the current draft of the Annual CIB Report Template.

ACTION: Abi Ririe will add a mechanism to this document for alerting department chairs to these reports.

Ed Barbanell asked what we should be able to say about these centers in the university. The information requested on the reports should directly address the goal of the review process. Part of the review process is to provide greater accountability for all parties involved.

Laura Kessler suggested possible dual layers of review based on the CIB’s status.

A round of reviews will be initiated in the Spring semester.

**8. Information Items from The Graduate School**

Dean Kieda presented information on language in Policy 6-300, “auxiliary faculty” to “career-line faculty”.

Vote: Approved unanimously

Abstained: None

Comments: “Tenure-line” should be used instead of “regular.”

ACTION: David Kieda will look at this terminology and make sure it appears correctly in the Graduate Catalog.

Time of Adjournment 5:01pm.

The next Council meeting will be held 24 November 2014 at 3:00pm in Winder Board Room 300 Park.