Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

CHAIRIED BY: Donna White  TIME: 3:00 p.m.

DATE: January 28, 2013  PLACE: 300 Park, Winder Board Room


EXCUSED MEMBERS: T. Formosa, B. Bromley, E. Gross, V. Hlady, E. Barbanelle

FINAL AGENDA

1. Minutes
   Motion: Approve minutes of November 26, 2012 meeting
   Vote: Approved unanimously as corrected

2. Revisions to Diversity Language in Review Procedures Booklet
   Donna White and Terry Kogan (Chair of University Diversity Committee and member of Graduate Council) presented. Diversity language to be added to the “red book” (used to guide all program reviews) was drafted by Donna White and Terry Kogan. An updated description of Diversity was included and concerns were raised about the fact that: faculty are not required, and should not be required, to self-declare information about race, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation. Although all of this reported data is optional, there were specific concerns about including “sexual orientation” as part of the diversity language and reporting by departments for their self studies. The fact that there is inconsistency in diversity language across campus was raised. After a lengthy discussion, the Council voted to table further discussion on this particular section (Description of Diversity) of the proposed language:

   Motion: Table discussion of “Description of Diversity” language in program review “red book”
   Vote: Approved unanimously

   A Council member proposed a motion to approve a different paragraph of the proposed language that was thought to be acceptable:
   “The University Diversity Committee strongly recommends that, prior to the preparation of the self-study, representatives from departments on Main Campus meet with the Office of Equity and Diversity, and that representatives from departments in Health Sciences meet with staff in the Office of the Vice President for Inclusion to discuss the department’s track record with respect to achieving diversity and to develop future plans for greater success in this area, including but not limited to fulfilling the expectations of diversity currently set forth in this handbook.”

   A motion was made to approve this language for inclusion in the “red book”

   Motion: Approve paragraph in program review “red book” regarding departments meeting with University diversity offices prior to preparation of self-study
   Vote: Approved unanimously

3. Graduate Council Review: Department of Sociology
Nan Ellin, Ad Hoc Committee Chair, presented. The report was complete and well done but recommendations need revisions and will be presented at next meeting.

Motion: Revise Sociology review and discuss at February 2013 meeting
Vote: Approved unanimously

4. Proposal: Create MS in Petroleum Engineering
   Joann Lighty, Chemical Engineering and Milind Deo, Chemical Engineering presented. Both the Chemical Engineering and Geology and Geophysics Departments worked hard to resolve concerns raised at the November meeting. All of the issues raised by the Council were addressed. There was some discussion regarding whether the degree should be an M.S., since it will be a nonthesis master’s program. The College of Engineering believes the name is important to the marketability of the degree.

Motion: Approve proposal to create an M.S. in Petroleum Engineering
Vote: In favor: 5
Against: 4
Abstained: 2

Interim Dean White had a concern about procedure at this point. She questioned whether there was a quorum present and if the vote could stand. Subsequent to the meeting, it was determined that in fact there was a quorum present and the vote stands. A memo was sent by Dean White to the Council informing them of this.

5. Proposal: Discontinue Clinical Nurse Leader Emphasis in Nursing MS
   Katie Ward, Nursing presented. No students would be affected by discontinuation of this emphasis, as there are currently no students in progress.

Motion: Discontinue Clinical Nurse Leader Emphasis in Nursing MS
Vote: Approved unanimously

6. Proposal: Create Care Management Emphasis in Nursing MS
   Katie Ward, Nursing presented. Many of the students interested in this emphasis are individuals with doctoral degrees looking for additional and specific certification.

Motion: Approve proposal to create a Care Management Emphasis within the Nursing MS.
Vote: Approved unanimously

7. Proposal: Create BA/BS in Writing and Rhetoric Studies, Change Name and Status of University Writing Program to Department of Writing and Rhetoric Studies, and Rename Minor as Minor in Writing and Rhetoric Studies
   Maureen Mathison, University Writing Program, presented. The proposal includes a request to create BA/BS degrees in Writing and Rhetoric Studies, a request to change the status and name of the University Writing Program to the Department of Writing and Rhetoric, and a proposed renaming of the minor. The name change and department status would more closely reflect how the program has evolved over the many successful years of its existence. The U. would be the first Pac-12 institution with a Writing and Rhetoric Department. There are plans to include graduate programs in the future but a separate proposal for those programs will come to the Council at that time.
Motion: Approve proposal to create BA/BS degrees in Writing and Rhetoric Studies, change name and status of the University Writing Program to the Department of Writing and Rhetoric Studies, and reconfigure the department minor to a minor in Writing and Rhetoric Studies

Vote: Approved unanimously

Comments: Some minor amendments will be submitted to the Dean and the proposal will be sent forward to the Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:20 PM.