

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

CHAired BY: David Kieda

TIME: 3:00 pm

DATE: February 27, 2017

PLACE: Winder Boardroom, 300 Park

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Barbanell, Derek Caperton, Kevin Davenport, Isabel Dulfano, Laura Kessler, Valeria Molinero, Richard Paine, Lis Pankl, Joanna Bettmann Schaefer, Ryan Smith, Christopher Stringham, Bryan Trump,

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: David Kieda, Katharine Ullman

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Mingnan Chen, Kristin Cloyes, Cedric Feschotte, Chuck Hansen, Arul Mishra, Jeff Moore, Lien Shen, Audrey Thompson, Julie Wambaugh

*note: quorum was reached via email following the meeting.

AGENDA

1. **Welcome**

David Kieda of the Graduate School welcomed the Graduate Council.

2. **Proposal: West Africa Campus**

Steve Adler, Alicen Bringard, & Jill Stephenson presented the West Africa Campus proposal. All Council questions were answered by Doctors Adler, Bringard, and Stephenson.

Vote: approve; unanimous

Abstained:

Comments: The Council discussed the problem of reviewing an extended program so distant from the main campus, but noted that other extended programs are included in the department reviews, rather than singly reviewed. The Council noted that one important issue for reviews is the stability and safety of facilities and infrastructure, which is not possible to ascertain without a visit. Further, the Council questioned whether the value of a graduate degree was culturally relevant to the Ghanaian population. Members of the Council noted that a master's degree qualifies a student for governmental work in many African countries, thus making it desirable.

3. **Proposal: Name Change for Tanner Center for Nonviolent Human Rights Advocacy**

A scheduling miscommunication prevented the Center Director from meeting with the Graduate Council. Rather than vote without input from the proposers, the Council determined to table the discussion until a future meeting.

Vote: table the discussion until representation from the Center available; unanimous

Abstained:

Comments:

5. **Review: Metallurgical Engineering Department**

Bryan Trump of the School of Dentistry presented the program review of the Metallurgical Engineering Department.

Vote: approve with amendments; unanimous

Abstained:

Comments: Amendments follow.

- i. The Council recommended the Review strengthen the language regarding the development of diversity in order to encourage the formulation of a departmental plan for increasing diversity.
- ii. The Council proposed a recommendation that would encourage the department to strengthen its relationships with other departments pursuing similar research.
- iii. The Council requested that some reported numbers in the Review be recalibrated to match those provided by OBIA.

6. Information Item: 6-500 Document

Ed Barbanell of Curriculum discussed the development of the 6-500 document guiding policies and procedures for various programs.

- i. Dormant programs. According to the document, programs that have had no students for 7 years will now be contacted by Curriculum to check that the program is still active. If it is not active, the program will be placed in dormancy and not offered in the catalogue.
- ii. Extended programs. Adjustments have been made regarding the approval process for extended programs. Extended program proposals must be approved by the academic unit, undergraduate program, and the Senate.
- iii. Online programs must be reported to NWCCU when they exceed a threshold of 30% online material, whether the program planned for the occurrence or it happened circumstantially. Online programs will be distributed as information items to the Graduate Council. The Council has veto power but does not need to approve each individual program.

7. Gender Studies Review and Discussion

Information Item: The Gender Studies program is now offering graduate-level classes as part of a certification provided to students. These courses are at the 5000 level, so can be taken by both graduates and undergraduates. In this case, the Gender Studies Program was reviewed by the Undergraduate Council and distributed to the Graduate Council as an informational item. The Council discussed what procedure should be used in the future for reviewing these courses.

Proposal: The Council proposed that going forward a member of the Graduate Council sit on the review for any program that contains a graduate-level certificate but no graduate degrees as part of its offering. In cases where a certificate program has no attachment to a graduate or undergraduate program, two Graduate Council members are proposed to give the certificate a periodic (7-year) review including student/faculty satisfaction with the certificate.

Vote: approve; unanimous

Abstained:

Comments:

Time of Adjournment 5:00pm.

The next Council meeting will be March 27, 2017 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm in the Winder Boardroom.