Graduate Council Minutes
Mendenhall Student Center 221
February 11, 2013
2:00-4:00 PM

GC Members Present: Bickley-Green, Cynthia; Cox, Kathy; Eble, Michelle; Franklin, Richard; Gares, Paul; Harer, John; Keiper, Brett; Lamson, Angela; Mott, Vivian; Ozan, Erol; Pokorny, Marie; Pressler, Jana; Rachlin, Sid; Ries, Heather; Reisch, John; Schwager, Paul; Skalko, Tom; Thompson, Bob; Vogelsong, Hans; Wheeler, Michael, and Terry West

GC Members Absent: Atkinson, Terry and Kirk St. Amant

Ex-Officio Members Present: Griffin, Linner; McFadden, Cheryl; Morehead, Andrew; Russoniello, Carmen; Sprague, Mark;

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Coddington, Charles and Anoush Terjanian

GC Guests: Tom McConnell

1. Call meeting to order
   2:06 PM

2. Approval of the 1/14/2013 Minutes approved

3. Approval of the 1/6/2013 GCC minutes
   Action Items
   • Proposal of New Course(s): HIST 6855
   • Proposal of New Course(s): ANTH 6855
   • Proposal of New Course(s): MPH 720
   • Proposal of New Course(s): ENGL 6065, 6195, 6345, 6375, 7721
   • Revision of Existing Course(s): ENGL 5150, 5280
   • Deletion of Existing Course(s): ENGL 5060, 5125, 5160, 5165, 5250, 5260, 5275, 5770, 7065
   • Revision of Existing Degree(s): MA in English
   • Revision of Existing Certificate(s): Certificate in Multicultural and Transitional Literatures
   • Proposal of New Course(s): 7620, 8300, 8600
   • Revision of Existing Course(s): 7615, 865, 8630, 8780
   • Renumbering and Revision of Existing Course(s): ENGL 8601 (to 7600)
   • Banking of Existing Course(s): ENGL 8605
• Title Revision of Existing Degree(s): PhD in Technical and Professional Discourse (to PhD in Rhetoric, Writing, and Professional Communication)
• Revision of Existing Degree(s): PhD in Technical and Professional Discourse

4. Request for PhD student time extension (Michael Dingfelder, Physics)
   • Requesting to approve 9 credits more than 10 years old toward graduation
   • Student enrolled in fall 2001
   • Student defended dissertation March 30, 2012 and his committee recommended he rewrite the dissertation by July
   • Student was not able to submit his dissertation fall semester 2012 but was able to submit to the Graduate School before census date of spring semester 2013
   • Student enrolled in one-hour dissertation course to be able to remain in the country
   • The Department of Physics is in support of this recommendation and it is their opinion the student has stayed current regarding course content
   • Department does not anticipate bringing forward similar requests
   • Approved

5. Thesis and Dissertation Graduate Catalog draft
   a. Thesis and Dissertation Faculty Manual Proposed Revision
      • Added: “the Dean approves thesis and dissertations”
      • Peer institutions use language such as “approve” or “recommends for thesis/dissertation approval by the Dean of the Graduate School
         o Discussion
      • Concerns regarding thesis/dissertation content disapproval by the Dean of the Graduate School
         o Questions regarding content should be directed toward thesis/desertion committee
         o The role of the Dean of the Graduate School includes overseeing the quality of programs and representative works from graduate matters at ECU
         o The thesis/dissertation committee should be consulted as part of the process when substantive concerns on the quality of the thesis arise
         o There is no specific language stating the thesis/dissertation committee should reconvene in such circumstances (the process articulated in the Faculty Manual is open-ended)
         o Procedure needed to return questionable thesis/dissertations back to student’s committee for review
      • Recommendation to allow the dean to recommend external members to thesis/dissertation committees for quality control purposes
         o Not favored by Master’s programs
      • Recommendation to change language from “approve” to “recommend” since the Board of Trustees has final approval
Noted that graduation is “recommended” to Board of Governors, but the question here is language for approval of theses and dissertations, which the Board of Governors does not specifically approve

- Motion approved to return draft to the GCEC for further refinement and an outline of detailed procedures

6. Announcements
   - Current ECU scholar and Honors student will be granted early assurance to the Occupational Therapy program
   - 40 applications for the graduate mentor award have been submitted
     - Deadline is March 1, 2013

7. Meeting adjourned
   2:49 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Tripp