

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
Mendenhall Student Center 221
February 20, 2012
3:00-5:00 PM

Attendance: Atkinson, Terry; Cox, Kathleen; Decker, Jim; Eble, Michelle; Franklin, Richard; Gares, Paul; Gemperline, Paul; Griffin, Linner; Harer, John; Huener, Thomas; Kasperek, George; Keiper, Brett; Lamson, Angela; McFadden, Cheryl; Mott, Vivian; Ozan, Erol; Pokorny, Marie; Pressler, Jana; Rachlin, Sid; Reisch, John; Ries, Heather; Russoniello, Carmen; Scavo, Carmine; Schwager, Paul; Sprague, Mark; Thompson, Bob; Walker, Marianna; and Terry West.

Guests: Belinda Patterson, Tom McConnell, Karen Summey, Paul Zigas

1. Call meeting to order
3:03 PM
2. Approval of the January 9, 2012 Graduate Council Minutes
Approved
3. Approval of the January 18, 2012 Graduate Curriculum Committee Minutes
 - a. Curriculum Changes
Approved
 - b. Permission to plan new degree program: Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies
Approved
Discussion (Dr. Dale Knickerbocker, Foreign Languages and Literatures)
 - Demand for a Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies at ECU based on state demographics and surveys of current students
 - This program will be the only curriculum of its type in the country taught entirely in Spanish and combining language, culture, and community outreach
 - There are no other programs in the area with this curriculum or with an engaged learning/research component
 - By the 2nd year the entire degree will be available online
 - The program has been granted 2 TA lines from the Thomas Harriott College of Arts and Sciences and is also working with the School of Dental Medicine and the Department of International Studies for funding support
 - There will be a thesis option for students
4. Approval of the February 1, 2012
Action Items
Revision of Existing Degree: CDFR 6991; FACS 6990
Prerequisite Revision of Existing Course: CDFR 6990
Banking of Existing Course: CDFR 6995
Revision of Departmental Text: Department of Child Development and Family Relations

Revision of Existing Degree: MAEd in Birth through Kindergarten (BK)
Proposal of New Course with Revision of Existing Course: PHYS 6720, 6772
Revision of Existing Degree: MS in Physics
Editorial Revision of Existing Courses: SPED 6702, 6703
Revision of Existing Certificate: Certificate in Assistive Technology
Deletion of Existing Courses: OCCT 6702, 6703
Removal of Existing Certificate from Department: Certificate in Assistive Technology
Revision of Existing Degree: MAEd in Mathematics
Deletion of Existing Concentrations: Pre-secondary Concentration, Secondary Concentration
Proposal of New Concentrations: Elementary Concentration (Grades K-6), Middle School Concentration (grades 6-9), High School Concentration (Grade 9-12)

- Approved

5. For Approval: Recommendations for utilizing 5000 level courses

- This will replace the previous 5000 level course policy
- With this change in policy, the GCC and the Graduate Council are empowered to begin approving new 5000 level courses and revising old 5000 level courses
- 5000 level courses that are continually dominated by undergraduate students should be split into a 4000/6000 level course with different learning outcomes for graduate and undergraduate students
- 5000 level courses that are required for undergraduate students must be split into a 4000/6000 level course with different learning outcomes for graduate and undergraduate students
- There remains the complication that the transcript shows the 5000 level course (for graduate but also for undergraduate students) not the distinguishing features of differential assessment, but this general course of action remains the best overall option
- The 6 hour rule and the dual enrollment option are mechanisms for undergraduate students to enroll in graduate courses
- There will always be exceptional undergraduate students who strive and meet the graduate level outcomes, but the assessment standards put into place must show a clear distinction that is defined for the great majority of students
- Approved

6. For discussion: Allocation of Assistantships 2013-2014

- Dr. Gemperline will be working this semester with the Academic Council, deans and the Graduate Council to develop a thoughtful and carefully deliberated process for reallocation of assistantship budgets for full implementation in fall 2013
- Tentative outline of reallocation planning process discussed
- This spring Dr. Gemperline will work with the Academic Council to issue an outline of strategic priorities to be addressed in the reallocation process
- Adjustments in the assistantship budget will be incremental over time

- Tentatively, those strategic priorities for reallocation include: PhD programs, newly approved graduate programs, and masters based on-campus programs with research intensive programs; enrollment enhancement; minimum funding to ensure sustainability of graduate programs will be a consideration & special projects
- Data will assist with characterizing program performance
 - Assessing student demand (size and quality of application pool), productivity of programs (degree completion rate, time to degree in proportion to part-time or full-time status of students, and number of degrees awarded), first year surveys on program climate (assesses student mentoring and curriculum as well as financial support), and assistantship data (what percentage of students are being supported by external funds versus campus based funds)
- Suggestion from Dr. Paul Gares for external review reports to be considered as qualitative data for characterizing program performance
- Dr. Gemperline would like to implement a Graduate Program Assessment Day where graduate program directors to review and discuss assessment data as well as sharing best practices in recruiting, retention, etc.

7. For Discussion: FERPA/Privacy

- FERPA/Privacy issue discussed at the most recent Graduate Program Directors and Coordinators Meeting with Amanda Fleming (Registrar) and Leon Gibson (Xtender)
- The official recommendation is not to print applications, as they contain FERPA information, but if printed, the documents must be “protected”
 - Retain printed records in a locked filing cabinet
 - Destroy applications after review
- Preference of the university that applications be viewed in Xtender
- Suggestion from the Graduate Council for alternate solutions due to Xtender’s incompatibility with Macintosh computers and frequent down time

Announcement: Dr. Linner Griffin

- Proposal to address the backlog of program approvals was discussed at the February 10th Board of Governors meeting and a final vote will be held on April 13th
- If approved, programs must complete the authorization to establish within four months of the authorization to plan
- To meet this timeline at ECU, there will be curriculum development steps that are shifted forward
- Send any feedback regarding this proposal and its impact on your department to Dr. Gemperline, Dr. Marianna Walker, Dr. Mark Sprague, Dr. Linner Griffin, and Ms. Karen Summerlin

8. Adjourn 4:55 PM

The next meeting will be Monday, March 19, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

Amy E. Tripp