Graduate Council Committee Meeting Minutes
Mendenhall Student Center 221
April 1, 2013
2:00-4:00 PM

GC Members Present: Atkinson, Terry; Bickley-Green; Cynthia; Eble, Michelle; Franklin, Richard; Gemperline, Paul; Harer, John; Keiper, Brett; McFadden, Cheryl; Mott, Vivian; Ozan, Erol; Pokorny, Marie; Preston, Ron; Reisch, John; Ries, Heather; Russoniello, Carmen; Skalko, Tom; Vogelsong, Hans; West, Terry; and Michael Wheeler

Voting Members Absent: Coddington, Charles; Cox, Kathy; Gares, Paul; Lamson, Angela; Pressler, Jana; Schwager, Paul; Terjanian Anoush; Thompson, Bob; and Xiaoming, Zeng

Ex-Officio Members Present: Griffin, Linner; Morehead, Andrew; Walker, Marianna; and Sprague, Mark.

Guests: Ashley, Robin; Bailey, George; Decker, Jim; McConnell, Tom; Patterson, Belinda

- Call meeting to order
  2:07 PM

- Approval of the 03/04/2013 GC minutes
  Approved

- Approval of the 02/20/2013 GCC minutes
  Action Items
  - Proposal of new course: MATH 6300
  - Proposal of new course: ANTH 6050
  - Deletion of existing certificate: Certificate in Virtual Reality in Education and Training
  - Revision of existing degree: MA in Health Education
    - Approved

- Approval of the 03/06/2013 GCC minutes
  Action Items
  - Proposal of new courses: EHST 6520, 6530
  - Revision of existing degree: MS in Environmental Health
  - Deletion of existing courses: EHST 5510, 5520, 5530, 5540
  - Revision of existing courses: OCCT 6001, 6002
  - Revision of existing degree: Master of Science in Occupational Therapy
  - Deletion of existing accelerated program: Professional Master’s Degree Path in Occupational Therapy
  - Proposal of new certificate: Certificate in Military and Trauma Counseling
  - Proposal of new course: ANTH 6005
• Proposal of new course: MIS 6713
• Revision of existing courses: FINA 6874, MIS 6923, MKTG 6652, OMGT 6943
• Prerequisite revision of existing courses: FINA 6914, MIS 6843, 6853, 6863, 6873, 6883
• Deletion of existing course: FINA 6904
• Revision of mission text: College of Business
• Revision of existing degrees: Master of Business Administration (MBA), MD/MBA, MSA
• Revision of existing certificate program: Finance
• Deletion of existing certificate programs: Electronic Commerce, Professional Management and Operations, School Business Management
• Revision of program text: Certificate Programs
• Revision of existing courses: SOCW 5001, 5900, 5910, 6110, 6111, 6702, 6711, 6940

Motion to amend the motion to approve the March 6 2013 GCC minutes was made by Dr. Erol Ozan to return the new course proposals for EHST 6520, 6530, to the Department of Health Education and Promotion’s proposal for new course proposals for EHST 6520, 6530, for amendment to draw clearer distinction between Environmental Health and Safety courses and Occupational Health and Safety courses. Motion to amend seconded, followed by discussion. The motion to amend did not pass. Vote by show of hands.

Minutes approved as presented.

• Approval of the 03/20/2013 GCC minutes

Action Items
• Proposal of new course: MPH 6150
• Proposal of new course: HUMS 6150
• Prerequisite revision of existing courses: LIBS 6014, 6018, 6026, 6031, 6345,
• Deletion of existing courses: LIBS 7010, 7981, 7982, 7983, 7991, 7992, 7995, 7996
• Revision of existing degree: MLS
• Deletion of existing licensure: North Carolina School Media Support Supervisor Licensure
• Revision of existing course: COMM 6240
• Proposal of new certificate: Certificate in Health Communication
• Prerequisite revision of existing courses: COMM 6210, 6220, 6221, 6224, 6226, 6230, 6230, 6240
• Proposal of new courses: LDHE 7501, 8070, 8080
• Renumbering and revision of existing courses; BIOL 5800 (to 6240), BIOL 5810 (to 6242), BIOL 5821 (to 6244), BIOL 5400, 5401 (to 7400, 7401)
• Revision of existing degree: MS in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

6. Request for time extension for CRM PHD student.
Approved to extend time for degree completion through December 2013 with the following conditions:

- A strict timeline is to be developed by the program for dissertation and degree completion
- If student fails to meet deadlines established by program, subject to dismissal from program
- Currency in outdated course work to be determined by dissertation committee
- Additional course work to meet course and credit hour requirements for degree to be completed by December 2013

7. Thesis and Dissertation Approval Process

- Invited Commentator- Dr. George Bailey
  - Multiple issues involved in disagreement over quality of theses/dissertations
    - Student centered issue if student not meeting success due to multiple reasons-policy/process to help students
    - ECU professionally centered issue: responsibility of Graduate School and question of authority to approve theses and dissertations and/or to have external members review for quality—should mechanism be in place
  - Bailey reported that his research found no university or college that empowered someone other than the thesis/dissertation committee to make decisions regarding quality—reasons other than editorial.
  - Proposed for consideration:
    - Have a proposal committee consisting of people from the unit; proposal written and approved by unit committee with external member outside of department as ex-officio; unit committee distinct from thesis/dissertation committee
- Update from ad hoc committee on thesis and dissertation approval process
  - Of 13 universities researched, most graduate deans do not have the authority to reject/return thesis or dissertation for reasons of quality of research; some do look at quality of writing
  - Duke University requires theses/dissertations to come in three weeks earlier to Graduate School for review
  - Recommendations/considerations from committee:
    - Start review process earlier, prior to defense, according to timeline monitored by the Graduate School
    - Before students schedule defense, students file a form bearing advisors’ signature indicating work has been read
    - Submit for editorial review prior to final review
    - Regular meetings of committees—at least one per semester.
    - Graduate School address quality of theses/dissertations during program review process
8. Plus/Minus Grading System
Following discussion, motion passed to reconstitute the Ad Hoc Committee (John Reisch, Cynthia Bickley-Green, Cheryl McFadden, and Andrew Morehead) to study further and bring recommendations before graduate program directors for substantive discussion.

9. Meeting adjourned
4:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Belinda P. Patterson