

**Graduate Council Meeting Agenda
November 1, 2017 – 3:30-5:00 p.m.
IRIC 321**

x	Jerry McMurtry		Ben Hunter	x	Alistair Smith
x	Esmael Alyami	x	Stacy Isenbarger		Fahmid Tousif
x	Julie Amador - phone	x	Jill Johnson	x	Daniel Strawn
x	Dan Eveleth	x	Gordon Murdoch	x	Elowyn Yager - phone
x	Laura Holyoke	x	Kelly Quinnett	x	Ata Zadehgo

Guests: Mark Warner, Gary Austin, Chris Williams, Rusty Baker

- I. Approval of the minutes from October 18, 2017
 - Moved to approve by Eveleth. Seconded by Isenbarger.
 - Approved unanimously

- II. Announcements and Reports
 - A. Graduate Teaching Assistants and Lab Assistants
 - Comments/concerns:
 - There was a suggestion to strike “graduate” from the TA requirement indicating 18 graduate credits are required. Some programs do not even require 18 graduate credits for the degree.
 - Warner said this language will cause an issue with tribal elders teaching their courses.
 - McMurtry: We will work with people who have particular expertise.
 - McMurtry: Accrediting bodies are requiring guidelines like these.
 - Are Grad TAs who are only teaching labs required to have 18 credits?
 - No, but they must have a Bachelor’s degree in that area.
 - Concern that the criteria is more lenient for undergrad lab assistants than for graduate TAs.
 - Members expressed concern that this could be limiting.
 - Suggested changes: Say 18 credits at UI required or 18 credits toward their graduate degree, rather than requiring 18 graduate credits.
 - B. Guiding Principles for TA Awards
 - Feedback from departments:
 - Suggested that number 3 indicating preference will be given to terminal degrees be struck because it is a slippery slope.
 - McMurtry said that is to encourage more terminal degrees.
 - Murdoch said many programs have doctoral programs, but industry wants only people with Master’s degrees.
 - Murdoch said he will send feedback to McMurtry.
 - Another draft of this will be brought back to a future meeting.

- III. Discussion
 - A. Student Petition (Austin)
 - Gary Austin attended the meeting to speak to this petition.
 - Student is the spouse of a UI employee who has been doing research in a college. Student applied once and didn’t get accepted because they did not meet the TOEFL requirement. They hired a private tutor and failed to get the minimum required

TOEFL score a second time. Student is two courses away from completing the degree. The department would like to admit them with less than the minimum required TOEFL score.

- Councilmembers agreed that the TOEFL test does not necessarily test a person's English skills, rather their ability to take a test.
- Smith moved to approve accepting this student with a 71 TOEFL. Seconded by Isenbarger. Approved unanimously.

B. Curriculum Changes

1. Statistics Certificate (Williams)

- The Statistics department wants to make Stat 431 a prerequisite rather than part of the certificate curriculum.
- Murdoch moved to approve. Seconded by Quinnett. Approved unanimously.

2. MSAT (Baker)

- This change was to drop a biomechanics course that is not needed in order to shift focus to courses that are more appropriate for the program.
- Eveleth moved to approve. Seconded by Isenbarger. Approved unanimously.

C. Clinical Graduate Faculty Definition

- McMurtry pointed out a discrepancy between FSH 1565 and 1700. One section says Clinical Faculty can be committee chairs, and the other section says they can be committee members but not chairs.
- The proposal is to make the department chair be responsible for approving clinical faculty to be on Graduate Faculty.
 - Comments/concerns:
 - This is a slippery slope. What is to prevent clinical faculty lines from eliminating tenure track faculty positions?
 - Suggestion was made that the general rule should be that clinical faculty not be allowed to serve on Graduate Faculty, and make it a case-by-case exception to allow it.
 - Could the rule allow Clinical Faculty to chair only non-thesis committees?
- This has been tabled until next time due to too much uncertainty.

D. Criteria for Graduate Recruitment Day

- Tabled until next time due to the time.

Adjourned at 5:20pm