

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2019 – 3:30-5:00 p.m.
IRIC 105

X	Jerry McMurtry	X	Gordon Murdoch (At-Large/CALS)	X	Jaap Vos (CAA)
X	Julie Amador (EHHS)	X	Mark Warner for Kelly Q. (CLASS)	-	Elowyn Yager (At-Large/ENGR)
X	Jeff Bailey (CBE)	X	Alistair Smith (CNR)	X	Ata Zadehgoi (ENGR)
X	Robert Heinse (At-Large/UWP)	X	Daniel Strawn (CALS)	X	Shiva Adhikari (GPSA)
X	Kristin Henrich (Library)	X	David Tank (COS)	X	Ananth Jillepalli (GPSA)

- I. Approval of the minutes from February 27, 2019
 - Moved to approve by Smith with edits. Seconded by Adhikari.
 - Approved unanimously.

- II. Announcements and Reports
 - A. Grad Visit Day Report – March 22-23
 - 45 attended the February and March Visit days. 17 visited Idaho Falls.
 - Students reported our campus was the friendliest one they visited.
 - Feedback from depts:
 - AVS: three students visited, and all three committed to UI.
 - BCB: three students visited, and one committed as of this meeting.
 - Materials Science: one commit, unsure how many visited.
 - Theatre: one attended and would decide by Friday.
 - B. Innovation Showcase – April 18
 - McMurtry asked members to encourage their students to register for the competition and their faculty members to participate as judges.

- III. Discussion
 - A. Student Petition – Theatre Arts (Robert Caisley)
 - Caisley appealed to councilmembers to allow an MFA student to transfer 20 credits from his MA in Education to his MFA degree. He has taken 40 credits at UI and wishes to use 20 from his MA degree in Education so he can finish this semester. He taught in the Theatre department at WSU for more than 10 years. He has a job waiting for him at another institution contingent on finishing the MFA in May.
 - Councilmembers expressed concern with this setting a precedent.
 - Warner said this is analogous to technical competency for undergrads with the 10+ years of teaching courses at WSU.
 - Murdoch asked if a course could be created that has curriculum development as a requirement that the student could register for this semester to get the credits to graduate. Answer: No. It is too late in the semester.
 - Members agreed that this is a very special case and would not be setting a precedent.
 - Smith moved to approve. Bailey seconded.
 - Passed with one abstention.

- B. FCS Graduate Faculty Request
- Shelley McGuire, chair of FCS, put forth a request to remove several members from Graduate Faculty in her department.
 - Councilmembers did not feel right about an administrator making such a request.
 - McMurtry will talk to McGuire to get additional information.
 - Murdoch moved to table this request. Seconded by Warner.
--Motion to table passed unanimously.
- C. GPSA – Short Term Parental Leave Policy Request (Connor Hill)
- Connor Hill attended on behalf of GPSA.
 - He looked at other universities' graduate student parental leave policies and wrote a proposal modeled after WSU's.
 - Leave entails:
--the student maintains current student status
--the student maintains tuition waivers
--the student maintains their current position while on leave without pay.
 - Comments/Questions:
--There could be an issue with a grant ending while the student is on leave, and the department doesn't have funds to bring them back after leave.
--This would be good in that it will force a plan to be put in place for students in this situation.
--Who will incur the expenses when the student is on grant funding?
--WSU has a pot of money to take care of students who are dropped from grant funding. UI does not have such a pool. Ideal scenario would be for central to create a pool for this purpose.
 - Liz Brandt offered to work with Connor on this proposal.
 - This was tabled.
- D. Graduate Faculty Committee Update
- Liz Brandt attended to discuss the work being done by the QTT Task Force.
 - They are working to compress faculty ranks into term faculty (1yr/3yr), tenure track/tenured. Term faculty can be full professors but are not eligible for tenure. Both ranks must have a terminal degree. Term faculty would be what we now call Clinical Faculty.
 - Under this, term faculty would not be eligible for graduate faculty status.
 - Comments/questions:
--Concern with self-funded department where the entire department is clinical faculty. They would have no one eligible to be major professors for grad students.
--Brandt said the provost is allowing tenure track positions in self-funded departments with the condition the position will continue for as long as the department maintains funding.
--What is the problem being solved through this proposal? Answer: Currently, faculty are doing the same job with vastly different ranks and pay. The goal is to create equity across the university.
--We are not protecting rigor of faculty positions with lots of clinical faculty positions. Clinical/Term faculty should be allowed to be co-major professors only.
 - The FSH changes that have been proposed by the Graduate Faculty Committee of Graduate Council will be tabled until the Faculty Senate QTT Task Force work is complete.

E. Continuous Registration

- Held until next meeting due to time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Future Meetings:

April 10

April 24

All meetings will be on Wednesdays at 3:30-5:00 p.m. (Pacific) in IRIC 105