

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2015
Commons Crest Room
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.**

X	Jerry McMurtry	X	Nancy Sprague for B. Hunter	X	Alistair Smith
	Julie Amador – phone	X	Jill Johnson	X	Greg Turner-Rahman
X	Alex Corredor		Scott Minnich	X	Tao Xing
X	Ankan Guria	X	Gordon Murdoch	X	Elowyn Yager - phone
X	Laura Holyoke	X	Sandra Reineke		

- I. Approval of the minutes from September 9, 2015
- Turner-Rahman moved to approve. Seconded by Smith.
 - Approved unanimously.
- II. Announcements and reports
- A. IPO – open discussion with Susie Bender, Mary Ellen Brewick, Katie Schiffelbein
- IPO handed out some documents for the discussion. Bender went over the 2014 international student data.
 - Brewick told the group they have recruiters in 12 countries. IPO is here to discuss their wish to increase the number of conditional admits because there is a demand for it. They explained that some government funded students (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, etc) need conditional admission because their language skills are not at a level for admission, and they need to go through the ALCP program.
 - International students are potentially leaving the UI after completion of the ALCP program because of the timing between them finishing the program and being admitted into graduate school. Reineke asked if there is a way to streamline the process for timing purposes to avoid this situation.
 - Guria suggested there be a minimum TOEFL score below which students will not be considered for even conditional admission.
 - IPO wants incomplete admissions packets to be reviewable before the students finish ALCP so that they will know whether they have been accepted into the program upon completion of ALCP. Currently, admissions will not pass incomplete applications packets to departments. There was discussion about whether this would be a possibility once the online application submission system is online. McMurtry is not sure. He explained that Graduate Council made the rule requiring admissions to only send complete application packets to departments. This will have to be added to a future agenda if Council wishes to change this procedure.
 - Murdoch suggested communicating with the governments who are funding these students to see if they can bridge the gap.
 - McMurtry said departments decide whether to allow conditional admissions. He asked council members to go to their departments and discuss these issues.

He reviewed rules with Graduate Council. If departments wish to be added to the conditional admissions list, they need to send a memo to COGS.

B. Priority survey

1. Structure of thesis/dissertation defenses.
 2. International admissions
 3. Elimination of thesis/dissertation signature page. Creation of a workflow process for approval of theses/dissertations.
 4. Graduate faculty membership
 5. Continuous enrollment
 6. Revise admissions requirements for students coming in with a MA/MS
 7. Optional layman's chapter in thesis/dissertation
 8. Eliminate hardcopy of these/dissertations. (Library is not in favor of this.)
- Focus on items 1-3 this semester.

C. Graduate faculty meeting agenda

- Date not yet selected because of space issues.

D. Update on items from Provost Wiencek

- Provost has not yet had time to put together information that Councilmembers asked him for at the last meeting.

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

A. Curricular items

1. Ed. Specialist Degree Omission from List of Online Degrees
 - Reineke moved to add the Ed. Specialist degree to the list of online degrees. Seconded by Holyoke.
 - Approved unanimously.
2. Ph. D. in Education – Higher Education
 - Holyoke explained the College of Education is trying to redesign this program as a cohort model with no tuition/fee waivers.
 - Each cohort would have a headcount of 18-25 students.
 - \$36K/4 years.
 - Holyoke moved to approve. Seconded by Smith.
 - Approved unanimously.

B. Catalog items

1. Catalog changes on committee membership
 - Co-major professors are currently allowed by petition.
 - Murdoch said it is prudent/wise to write policy language allowing for co-major professors. Xing agreed. Smith noted that it could be a good mentoring opportunity for new faculty members.
 - Does there need to be language written re: conflict between co-major professors? McMurtry said the co-major professors will count as one person.
 - McMurtry will re-write the language presented and bring it back to Graduate Council.

2. Policy for Thesis/Dissertation Defenses

- McMurtry asked Council to draft a defense policy.
- Turner-Rahman, Johnson, and Guria will serve on the committee to draft this language.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Future Meetings:

October 21

November 11

All meetings will be on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. (Pacific) in the Commons Crest.