



GRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held April 5, 2018

Present: Dean Sridhar, Associate Dean Schultheiss, Professors Deng, Richter, Falk, Kosteas, Kostandy, Francis, Whitford, Library Representative Diane Kolosionek, Registrar Kevin Neal

Absent/Excused: Professors Arndt, Sparks, Hansman, Kothapalli, Adluri, Judge, Shukla, Hatch, Krebs, Kaufman

Guests: Professor Steven Gingerich

Dean Sridhar called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Approve Agenda – The meeting Agenda was **approved**.

2. Approve minutes – March 5, 2018

- ❖ A Council member stated that she was listed as attending but was actually not at the March meeting.
- ❖ **A motion was made, seconded and the minutes were approved and the change will be made.**

3. New Business

❖ Curriculog proposals

i. Spanish 4+1 (re-visit)

- Dr. Gingerich mentioned that one of the major issues last time was that graduate students can graduate with a minimum of 32 credits and 4+1 students graduate with a minimum of 36.
- He explained the different options to the M.A. in Spanish (written exam, thesis, coursework, 4+1 option) and a document explaining such was now included in the proposal.
- Dr. Sridhar mentioned a topic being discussed at CCGS meetings lately—double counting of credits. With a minimum of 120 for the Bachelor's, 30 additional for a Master's, this makes a total of 150 unique credit hours. If a student is in a 4+1 program and this includes some courses being double-counted, the student will most likely have less than 150 unique hours. The mechanism for the double-counted credits works as follows. The student earns credits for a 5XX class as *undergraduate* credits when they take the class. Once the student has completed all requirements for their undergraduate degree, and has earned the degree, the student is placed on a graduate record. Finally, after the student has completed one semester of coursework on their graduate record, the credits for the double-counted courses are transferred to their graduate record. If the ODHE guidelines are interpreted as grad programs requiring 150 *unique* hours, our 4+1 programs will be out of compliance, as will others around the state. The CCGS discussion is also addressing comparable issues with College Credit Plus and double-counting of hours between undergrad programs and high school graduation requirements.
- Dr. Sridhar explained the continuous registration requirement for 4+1 students and mentioned that this wording should be included in the Spanish proposal. It is also listed in the Graduate Catalog but having a 4+1 'template' for all 4+1

programs in the catalog would be helpful. Kevin will talk with Brittany to see what information can be used as a link to be included in each 4+1 program listed in the catalog.

- Kevin also mentioned that the way double-counting and transfer credits are listed in the Graduate Catalog might need clarification.
 - A Council member also asked about the rules for re-taking courses.
 - **A motion was made to approve the 4+1 proposal, seconded and passed unanimously.**
- ii. List of courses in Curriculum
- The large list of Social Work, Sociology and Nursing courses was reviewed in the Graduate College with no issues.
 - **A motion was made to approve the courses presented in Curriculum, which was seconded and passed unanimously.**

4. Dean's Discussion Items

- ❖ Graduate Faculty Status
 - i. Dr. Sridhar met with the Graduate Faculty Review Committee and they will be developing new language for the Guidelines to be reviewed by Council. Some of the major issues are guidelines for clinical faculty, adjunct and part-time faculty. Another issue is the difference between the graduate faculty directing theses/dissertation as opposed to graduate faculty just teaching.
 - ii. Again, the HLC requirement is that all graduate faculty need to have the terminal degree.
- ❖ Another issue currently raised is the question of when a student can walk at commencement. The Graduate College receives requests for students to walk at the spring ceremony when they will actually be finishing all their program requirements in the summer or later. All previous Graduate Council actions have stated that a student does not walk until **all** program requirements are met. The Graduate Catalog also states this. Dr. Sridhar expressed that either (a) students should not walk until all requirements are met or (b) we should change catalog language to reflect reality, and opened this topic up for discussion. Discussion and opinions included:
 - i. Fewer students would attend commencement
 - ii. Commencement is a 'ritual' ceremony and the diploma isn't given out then
 - iii. Students might have left the northeast Ohio area
 - iv. International students might leave the country directly after summer and would not return for a December ceremony
 - v. Graduate catalog should be changed to reflect the possibility of exceptions made. It should reflect what is actually being practiced.
 - vi. Under discussion now is the possibility of doctoral students receiving the actual diploma at the Commencement ceremony
 - The major burden would fall on the faculty to submit grades early and on time
 - This could present time constraints on some programs
 - Other universities have their commencement ceremonies the week *after* finals week
 - It was suggested that students could opt out of receiving the actual diploma if they think they will be delayed, but still walk in the ceremony

5. Graduate Council Representation & Standing Committees – Available reports

- a. Faculty Senate
 - Graduate programs were approved
- b. University Admissions & Standards
 - A 3+3 program with the Law School was approved
- c. University Curriculum Committee – no report
- d. Graduate Faculty Review Committee

- The Committee presents round #1 of the list of applications
- **A motion to approve the recommendations was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.**
- e. Petitions Committee
 - Committee is meeting once a month with approximately 10-12 each month
- f. Grade Dispute Committee
 - One has just been received
- g. Program Review Committee
 - Dr. Sridhar has met with several external reviewers
- h. University Research Council
 - Two research awards were finalized at the last meeting
 - Graduate Summer Research Award had 17 applications, 14 were funded
 - Faculty Research Development (FRD) Award also had 17 applicants, 4 were funded
 - Those with external funding were viewed more positively, which caused additional discussion amongst Research Council members
- i. Graduate Student Awards Committee
 - The celebration reception is May 11th; this will be combined with graduating doctoral students and their advisors

6. Announcements

- ❖ Graduate Council election process is ongoing

7. Next Meeting: The next Council meeting is Monday, April 30 @ 10:00 a.m.

- ❖ Dr. Sridhar will be on a recruiting trip to India and will not be at this meeting. He will be meeting with the Indian admitted students to increase the yield of those actually coming to CSU.

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.