



GRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held February 1, 2018

Present: Dean Sridhar, Associate Dean Schultheiss, Professors Arndt, Deng, Hansman, Kothapalli, Falk, Kosteas, Francis, Kostandy, Judge, Whitford, Hatch, Krebs, Library representative Diane Kolosionek

Absent/Excused: Professors Sparks, Richter, Shukla, Kaufman, Adluri, Registrar Neal

Guests: Dean Tim Gaspar, Professors Corinne Wheeler, Beth Ekelman, Susan Bazyk, Heidi Meier, Wendy Regoecki, Don Allensworth-Davies, Karen Sotiropoulos, Steven Gingerich, Elliott Ingersoll

Dean Sridhar called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

1. **Approve Agenda** – The meeting Agenda was **approved**.
2. **Approve minutes** – December 5, 2017
 - ❖ **A motion was made, seconded and the minutes were approved as written.**
3. **New Business**
 - ❖ Curriculog proposals
 - i. New degrees, Full Proposals
 - Dean Gaspar explained that the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) full proposal is basically the same as the PDP Council reviewed in the fall. Earlier questions have been addressed and included are support letters from the greater Cleveland community.
 - a. There are other DNP's in the region but most are post-Master's only. The CSU proposal will also be a post-baccalaureate, which helps students pursue their career path sooner. It is felt that by 2020 the accrediting body will be requiring all advanced practice nurses to be enrolled or graduated from a DNP program in order to practice nationally.
 - b. Questions and discussion included the following topics: is this degree inflation, the complexity of patients' diagnoses, the aging population, the successful patient outcomes from nurse practitioners, the qualifications of the Nursing faculty, faculty moving to this program and being removed from other course loads, and general use of resources.
 - c. It was suggested to highlight the administration portion of the proposal, especially for the CCGS review.

- d. Dr. Sridhar asked if Council members wanted further discussion or were ready to vote on the proposal. **A motion was made to approve the proposal which was seconded and approved with three abstentions.**
- Dr. Ekelman explained that recently their accrediting body has mandated that all occupational therapy programs transition to the Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD) by 2027. Four of the seven Ohio programs are already at the doctoral level. The programs are either eight or nine terms, 95-126 credits. CSU decided to be eight terms and 103 credits. She gave a brief overview of the program.
 - a. There isn't a salary difference for jobs between the Master's and OTD degrees but the accrediting body felt that the complexities of the health profession warranted additional training.
 - b. Questions and discussion included the following topics: clarification that this is a clinical doctorate, not a Ph.D.; the high competitive GPA, and resources.
 - c. Once the proposal reaches the Graduate Council step in Curriculog, **we will call for an email vote.**
 - ii. The Master of Accountancy is making revisions to its program, per the accrediting body's request for an additional standard that involves information technology skills and knowledge. The new course ACT 575 Accounting Analytics will be added to the core and take the place of an elective, increasing core credits and reducing elective credits. **A motion was made to approve the revisions to the Accountancy programs, which passed unanimously.**
 - iii. A new graduate certificate, Governance, Risk & Compliance, is being proposed by the Accounting department. All courses are existing.
 - A large number of students pursue a CPA license, but for those that do not, the certificate will provide additional training and marketing abilities.
 - Student with such a certificate involving corporate governance, risk assessment and compliance has been of interest to the Institute of Internal Auditors, with which the department has a strong partnership.
 - **A motion was made to approve the new graduate certificate, it was seconded and passed unanimously.**
 - iv. M.A. in Sociology revisions—The program is planning to change the title of the degree *to* M.A. in Applied Social Research.
 - The degree is being modernized and updated, course content is being changed to reflect an applied focus, and a research practicum is being added. Total credits will **increase to 33 from 30.**
 - **A motion was made to approve the Sociology revisions, was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

- v. Master's in Public Health—the program is being modified to more than 50% online and needs each university in the consortium's approval.
 - Some of the reasons for the change are to be competitive with Kent State, who withdrew from the consortium and has its own School of Public Health and because Youngstown State will be discontinuing support for distance learning classes.
 - The state has approved the change.
 - **A motion was made to approve the program modifications, which was seconded and approved unanimously.**
- vi. Health Sciences new 4+1
 - The department is proposing a 4+1 with the B.S. in Health Sciences plus the Master's in Public Health.
 - Some of the job opportunities for the Master's in Public Health include non-profit agencies, county/city Boards of Health, and will provide a more competitive application for a nursing or medical school.
 - Four core courses will be changing *from* 600-level *to* a 500-level in order for undergraduates to be able to take them.
 - **A motion was made to approve the new 4+1, which was seconded and approved unanimously.**
- vii. Graduate Certificate in Culture, Communication & Health Care-revisions
 - Several original courses for the certificate are no longer being offered and are being deactivated and replaced. One course will be in research methods.
 - Students will be required to have at least one course in statistics/introductory research methods at the undergraduate level in order for student to be better prepared for a research course.
 - **A motion was made to approve the program revisions, which was seconded and approved unanimously.**
- viii. M.A. in English revision—the Creative Writing concentration is being suspended per the recommendation of the program review external reviewers report.
 - The University has a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree that is successful. The Creative Writing concentration within the M.A. in English has lower enrollment and is taking resources from the MFA. The recommendation has been to suspend the concentration and direct the resources to the MFA.
 - A question came up about the teach-out plan, which CCGS will require on the paperwork. There is also a reference to tuition waivers, which needs to be removed.
 - **A motion was made to approve the suspension, seconded, and approved unanimously.**
- ix. M.A. in History revisions—total credit reductions
 - Courses have been changed *from* 4 *to* 3 credits and the reduction in credits will be more in line with other programs.

- The Museum Studies specialization has challenges because it is interdisciplinary and there is limited control over when certain courses will be offered. This program will change *from 38 to 30-33* total credits.
 - **A motion was made to approve the revisions to the M.A. in History degree, which was seconded and approved unanimously.**
- x. Spanish new 4+1
- The 4+1 is proposed as an enrollment incentive. It will also give undergraduates a better idea of the graduate program and if they wish to continue on.
 - Discussion included: questioning the 30 vs. 36 credits for a ‘regular’ graduate student and a 4+1 student, respectively; explaining the three options to students (thesis, written exams, two additional courses) and how this would work for the 4+1.
 - Council felt the proposal needed clarification of total number of credits for 4+1 students and the curriculum explained including the courses used for double-counting. A re-write was requested. A vote was held pending revisions.
- xi. Graduate courses in Curriculog
- A large number of courses have been reviewed in the Graduate College.
 - Dr. Ingersoll answered Council’s pending questions on rationale for CNS 506. This can serve as an elective for students to initiate more possible interest for art therapy in the Counseling program.
 - Several OTD and Nursing courses were reviewed for the pending DNP and OTD proposals.
 - A question was raised about the grading of research courses.
 - **A motion was made to approve the list of courses as presented, which was seconded, and passed unanimously.**

4. Continuing Business

5. Graduate Council Representation & Standing Committees – Available reports

- a. Faculty Senate – no report
- b. University Admissions & Standards – all undergraduate proposals
- c. University Curriculum Committee
 - Because our Fall representative is now on sabbatical, we need a new Graduate Council representative to UCC. Since some Council members had to leave we will put out an email request.
- d. Graduate Faculty Review Committee – deadline for Spring applications is February 22nd
- e. Petitions Committee – no report
- f. Grade Dispute Committee – no report
- g. Program Review Committee – ongoing
- h. University Research Council – no report

- i. Graduate Student Awards Committee
 - The 3MT competition will be February 28th for student presentations
- 6. Dean's Discussion Items**
 - ❖ Dr. Sridhar mentioned that the Level 3 graduate faculty status will need revising. This is part of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) requirements and the upcoming 2020 accreditation visit. More to follow.
 - i. A Council member has a concern that non-research faculty are being hired to teach the clinical/practitioner doctorate courses (700-800 level courses).
 - ii. There will be further discussion at the next meeting.
- 7. Announcements**
 - ❖ The graduate faculty meeting is 2:00 p.m. on March 1st, mark your calendars.
- 8. Next Meeting:** The next Council meeting is Monday, March 5th @ 10:00 a.m.
- 9. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.