



GRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held October 10, 2018

Present: Dean Sridhar, Associate Dean Schultheiss, Professors Deng, Arndt, Hansman, Pourdavood, Richter, Falk, Tayyara, Kosteas, Matcham, Ekelman, Quinn, Shukla, Hatch, Krebs, Kumar, Registrar Kevin Neal, Student Representative Rene Kizys

Absent/Excused: Professors Kothapalli, Sun, Library Representative Diane Kolosionek

Guests: Professor Sanda Kaufman (Urban Studies)

Dr. Sridhar called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. Approve Agenda – The Agenda was **approved** as presented.

2. Approve minutes – September 11, 2018

❖ **A motion was made, seconded and the minutes were approved as written.**

3. New Business

❖ Curriculog proposals

i. M.A. in Environmental Studies – revisions

- The revisions are a “clean-up” of the program which includes removing a Technical Writing course, adding a Capstone course, changing total credits **from** 44 **to** 42, some of which is the result of some courses being changed from 4 to 3 credits.
- A question was raised about the elective credit total being 11 credits which discourages more than one 3-credit course combination. As written, the proposal states, “minimum of 11 credits,” and Dr. Kaufman said students could take more credits, of course. Dr. Sridhar mentioned that the description could say the degree is a “minimum of 41 credits” which would provide more flexibility.
- A Council member felt the listing of specializations in the catalog was not clear to the reader. The student representative questioned less credits in the degree than other universities and whether it would be looked upon negatively in applying for a job. Dr. Sridhar explained that the minimum in the state of Ohio is 30 credits for a degree and this is well past that.
- Follow-up discussion requested the issue of 41 total credits, or a variable of 41-42 being in the proposal would better allow for the differences in elective courses for students. Dr. Sridhar asked Kevin what would be best, procedurally, to do with the proposal. Kevin suggested rejecting the proposal, asking for the credit revisions in the document, which would allow the department to agree and make the changes, or disagree.
- The motion made was to send the proposal back to the department to revise the side-by-side descriptive sheet and change total credits to “41-43” and the elective credits to “a minimum of 10-12 credits.” **The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.**

ii. List of courses in Curriculog

- The list of courses was reviewed in the Graduate College with no issues.

- **A motion was made to approve the courses presented in Curriculog, which was seconded and passed unanimously.**

4. Graduate Council Representation & Standing Committees – Available reports

- a. Faculty Senate
 - Our revision to the Graduate Faculty By-Laws was approved, which added two additional representatives to Graduate Council (student, Research Council).
 - Also approved was a proposal for transfer credits of undergraduate students. If a student has a C- it will be transferred into CSU as a C, since CSU does not have a C- on its grading scales. This would mean the student would not need to take the course again.
- b. University Admissions & Standards
 - The C- proposal passed the Admissions & Standards Committee, also. Kevin mentioned that the Registrar's Office would be looking at how to revise the system to allow for this. Council members feel this can impact graduate student advising and graduate program admissions.
 - It was suggested that Graduate Council write a statement, from the graduate perspective on this proposal. Dr. Ekelman and Dr. Kumar volunteered to write a draft. Dr. Sridhar said he would send a message to the chairs of Admissions & Standards and Faculty Senate explaining that Graduate Council discussed this issue and felt there were issues that impacted graduate programs. It will be mentioned that a statement is being written and will be submitted to them. At the next Graduate Council meeting, the statement will be reviewed and once final will be sent to Admissions & Standards, Faculty Senate and graduate program directors. It was suggested that a concrete example be included in the written statement.
 - The Computer & Information Science track, MCIS was rejected and just sent back to Council.
- c. University Curriculum Committee
 - Since we still do not have a Graduate Council UCC representative, it was questioned as to why we can't have a current college member on UCC serve as the Graduate Council representative. If the important issue is communication between the two groups, why would a separate rep be needed? Dr. Sridhar will contact the Faculty Senate chair to inquire. If this would be allowed, Tim Arndt would serve.
 - The 4+1 in Spanish proposal is still in question.
- d. Graduate Faculty Review Committee
 - The list of summer applications were presented for approval. **A motion was made to approve the Committee's recommendations for the Summer 18 graduate faculty renewals, which was seconded and passed unanimously.**
 - Dr. Sridhar mentioned that the Graduate College has been working on a form requesting the relevant information to help facilitate the renewal process.
 - A Council member also asked if a confirmation email could be provided for them once they upload.
- e. Petitions Committee – 11 petitions have been reviewed in the last month
- f. Grade Dispute Committee – no disputes received
- g. Program Review Committee
 - There are five programs under review this year. Committee member names have been submitted to the Strategic Planning Department, who will be notified once the review meetings begin.
- h. University Research Council – no report
- i. Graduate Student Awards Committee
 - Deadline for submissions is November 1. Encourage faculty to nominate students.

5. Informational

- ❖ We received notice from the Registrar's Office that a page on our Graduate College web site listed certain courses that were not available for non-degree students. The page was outdated and it has been removed. We have replaced it with generic language that advises students to consult with their programs for courses that **are** and **are not** allowed for non-degree students.

6. Discussion items

- ❖ The department of Economics is revising their Master's program and while this is going through, they want to suspend admissions for one year. Once the revisions are complete admissions will be accepted in Fall 2020 to the revised program. Dr. Sridhar checked with CCGS and was informed that we do not need to notify Columbus if admissions are suspended only for one year. A notice will be added to the Graduate Catalog. A similar instance was previously done for the DBA program.
- ❖ The Ph.D. in Adult Development & Aging is in a similar situation. The program was previously joint with the University of Akron. Akron has suspended this program. CSU will suspend our admissions until we decide how the program may be reformatted. The admissions pages will be changed so that no students can apply to either program.
- ❖ A Council member mentioned that on a recent trip to India he was asked if CSU had a M.S. program in Engineering Management. CSU does not have this degree and previous discussions have not felt it would be viable. Akron has discontinued theirs, Case has it. Another Council member mentioned that with the decline in MBA programs, other more field specific degrees are being considered. Perhaps a certificate in Engineering Management could be considered.

7. Next Meeting: Thursday, November 15th @ 1:00 p.m. in PH 104

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.