

# Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 4:00pm  
CLAS Conference Room, 210 Strong Hall

Presiding: Thomas Heilke

Members present: James Daugherty, David Ekerdt, Victor Frost, Tien-Tsung Lee, Brian Laird, Mahub Rashid, Allen Rawitch, Daniel Stevenson, and John Stobaugh

Staff: Austin Fitts and Roberta Pokphanh

Guest: Johannes Feddema, Nancy Helm, Xingong Li, and Christian Schöneich

## AGENDA

1. Announcements
    - a. Awards subcommittee divisions: Selection results
    - b. Adding a member to the Council on the KU Medical Center
    - c. Call for nominations to the Council 2013-2016
  2. Review of minutes:  
January 2013 meeting
  3. Program Proposals:
    - a. Master of Science in Geography
    - b. Distance PhD in Pharmaceutical Chemistry
    - c. Architecture, Design, and Planning: MA Design programs
      - i. Create a new concentration in Environmental Design within the Design MA program
  4. Policy Review:
    - a. Good Academic Standing
    - b. Non-degree-seeking students (Admission to Graduate Studies policy)
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1. Announcements made by the Dean of Graduate Studies
  - a. Dean Heilke opened the meeting by welcoming the Executive Council members and announcing those members that could not attend the meeting. Dean Heilke commented on the progress made in establishing award subcommittee divisions. Roberta Pokphanh indicated that there were some changes to subcommittees due to scheduling and gave further details on the timeline for awards. Dean Heilke provided some discussion of the current nominations to the Executive Council for the 2013-2016 term.
2. Review of minutes: January meeting  
The Executive Council members reviewed the minutes for the January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013, meeting. Professor Laird moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Professor Stevenson. The motion carried unanimously. Updated minutes are available on the Executive Council website [<http://www.graduate.ku.edu/executive-council-graduate-faculty>].
3. Program Proposals
  - a. Dean Heilke introduced Dr. Johannes Feddema and Dr. Xingong Li and then opened the floor for questions. Professor Laird raised a question regarding the nature of the oral defense and the planning of the thesis topic. Dr. Feddema explained the nature of the thesis option. Dr. Li noted that the program will not admit a student until he or she has a matching faculty advisor. Professor Laird asked for more information to be added to the proposal that indicates the timing of the proposal and the culminating exam.

Professor Lee asked about resources available given the existing MA in Geography and Dr. Feddema provided additional information about department resources. Professor Stevenson asked

whether the courses in the proposal are already being offered and Dr. Feddema confirmed that they are. Professors Laird and Rashid discussed other details of the proposal.

After the department representatives left the meeting, Dean Heilke and Dean Rawitch discussed faculty resources. Professor Daugherty moved to approve the program proposal, seconded by Professor Lee. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Dean Heilke introduced Dr. Schöneich and Ms. Nancy Helm and then opened the floor for questions. Dean Heilke asked about this program serving as a prototype for future cases of intellectual property and conflict of interest issues. Dean Heilke added that KU Research and Graduate Studies should be made aware of the template.

Professor Frost and Laird raised discussion of the question of ownership. Dean Heilke and Dean Rawitch discussed the rights and ownership of the student work in more detail. Professor Schöneich noted that the proposal indicates the dissertation is tied to a research problem that is clearly defined by the faculty member.

Professor Stobaugh provided discussion of how previous cases have been worked out with KU General Counsel to define the contract (and a template). Professor Stobaugh indicated that the project will not be company driven and Dean Rawitch asked that the proposal have language addressing such issues. Dean Heilke asked that a general statement be added to the document.

Professor Rashid asked about the coursework being completed before the project is developed. Dr. Schöneich indicated that the program only takes students continuing on from the Distance master's program. Dr. Schöneich further informed the Council that students must complete the MA coursework as well as pass their oral comprehensive exam before being admitted to the proposed program. Professor Rashid asked that a statement addressing this issue be added to proposal document.

Professor Ekert asked if this is a new program or a new way of delivering an existing degree. Professor Stobaugh and Dean Heilke discussed how this program is simply a new mode of delivering an existing degree.

Dean Heilke and Professor Daugherty asked for clarification in the proposal document of how they will meet the residency requirement. Dr. Schöneich noted that the proposal will say six months instead of two semesters so that it allows students to participate who are on a fixed six month sabbatical.

Dean Rawitch pointed out that this program will provide a lot of background experience for future distance learning programs. Professor Laird moved to approve the program proposal, seconded by Professor Lee. The motion carried unanimously.

- c. Dean Heilke reminded the Council of the details of the new Environmental Design concentration from the meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The Council discussed accreditation and requested a precise breakdown of the FTE contributions of each of the faculty members who are included in the proposal. The Council also requested a copy of the endorsements of Dean Gaunt and Design Department Chair Herstowski.

#### 4. Policy Review

- a. Dean Heilke introduced the policy and Dean Rawitch discussed monitoring progress toward degree and timelines being stretched for students in professional degree programs. Roberta Pokphanh indicated that this is decided at the department level and that progress toward degree deadline issues are addressed in the Graduate Studies policy on Doctoral Degree Program Time

Constraints. The group discussed removing language about a maximum number of years in the Good Academic Standing policy.

Dean Rawitch suggested adding a link to the time limits policies in related documents section and Austin Fitts agreed to modify the policy. Dean Heilke informed the committee that the suggested changes will be presented at the next Executive Council meeting.

- b. Dean introduced the current changes to the Admission to Graduate Studies policy. Professor Laird raised discussion of a line in the policy specifying that students must indicate that they do not intend to work for an advanced degree or towards a graduate certificate at the time of application. Dean Heilke expressed that this statement would be modified.

Dean Rawitch suggested adding more information to the policies linked in the Admission to Graduate Studies policy and Austin Fitts agreed to modify the policy.

Professor Daugherty asked the Council to revisit the transfer credit policy. Dean Heilke agreed bring more information on transfer credit to the next Executive Council meeting.

Dean Heilke entertained further comments and discussion before the meeting adjourned at 3:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Austin Fitts