

Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

Minutes for 16 October 2015

Present: Dean Michael C. Roberts (Chair), Ben Chappell, James Daugherty, Apurba Dutta, Ahreum Maeng, Scott Reinardy, Milena Stanislavova, Sara Wilson, Michael Werle (By Phone)

Absent: Robert Klein (Ex Officio), Mahasweta Banerjee, Monica Biernat, Aaron Clopton, Mahub Rashid, Paul Scott,

Also present: Assistant Dean Amanda Ostreko (Staff), Amber Roberts Graham (Staff)

Called to Order

- 2:10 pm
- 210 Strong Hall, CLAS Conference Room

Announcements

10 minutes

- ECGF Representative - School of the Arts
 1. We have asked Associate Dean Henry Bial for recommendations.
- Maintenance of New Program Proposal process on Academic Affairs website
 1. Academic Affairs is maintaining the New Program Proposal process on their website due to the recent implementation of an online system for program proposals. We will change our website so that it links directly to theirs instead of duplicating the information. Proposals for new graduate programs and any graduate issues related to new program proposals will continue to come to this body for review.
- Combining policy pages for Degree- and Certificate-Seeking Admission Policy
 1. The policy library currently contains two separate but very similar policy pages governing Degree- and Certificate-Seeking graduate admissions. We are combining these two policy pages into one. This does not incorporate any policy change that needs review.

Review of Minutes - 25 September 2015

5 minutes

1. Minutes were approved with one semantic modification.

Administrative Discussion

Cumulative GPA for non-degree-seeking graduate students

Representative: Assistant Dean Amanda Ostreko —

Assistant Dean Ostreko will provide an update on further findings. —

1. Assistant Dean Ostreko recapped the issue: when it was brought up at last month's meeting the Council was generally comfortable with the process in place but wanted more information.
2. Data from her investigation was provided in a handout.
3. Only a small number of students may be adversely affected by the current Cumulative GPA calculation. More than half of the non-degree graduate students are in graduate courses only, many are in both graduate and undergraduate courses, and only a few are enrolled only in undergraduate courses.
4. Discussion ensued concerning several examples and implications.
5. The Council reached a consensus recommendation that they would like to see all coursework count toward a non-degree-seeking graduate student's cumulative GPA, but that if a student was later accepted to pursue degree-seeking work, all undergraduate coursework would drop out of the calculation.
6. We will investigate the extent to which this might be possible within KU's systems.

Parental Accommodation Policy

Representative: Dean Michael Roberts —

We would like to hear any feedback or reactions you may have received so far. —

1. Several Council members have already received feedback from their units.
2. Discussion ensued concerning those reactions, as they varied widely.
3. The Council also discussed who should be asked for additional input.

Policy Proposals

30 Minutes

18-Hour Post-Comprehensive Enrollment Policy

Representative: Professor Ben Chappell —

We will begin a discussion of the proposed modifications to this policy. —

1. Dean Roberts thanked Professor Chappell for doing a lot of work to develop this proposal.
2. Professor Chappell drafted a proposal to modify the 18-hour post-comprehensive enrollment policy to better correlate to the standards of AAU peer institutions and be more consistent with other policies concerning graduate student benefits and demands on university facilities and faculty time.
3. Overall, the Council voiced strong support for revising this policy as proposed.
4. Assistant Dean Ostreko mentioned that we will need to obtain better financial models to determine whether this can be implemented in a way that is revenue neutral.

Emeritus Graduate Faculty

Representative: Amber Roberts Graham —

We seek recommendations about how to handle Emeritus faculty with respect to Graduate Faculty status and service on committees. —

1. We drafted and circulated two alternative proposals for consideration and asked how the Council thinks we should approach faculty who wish to remain involved in graduate mentorship after retirement.
2. The Council discussed alternatives, such as time limits, privileges, automatic approval processes, and time extensions, as well as the implications of those alternatives.

Discussion: Time Allowing

10 Minutes

5 Months between Comprehensive Exams and Defense

Representative: Dean Michael Roberts —

We will open discussion for preliminary thoughts on this policy. For existing language, please see the policy on Doctoral Degree Final Oral Exams. —

1. Dean Roberts asked for information from the departments about how this policy affects them, and reason to either retain, revise, or remove it.
2. Several departments offered their perspective and discussion ensued.

Adjourned

- 3:13 pm

Next Meeting: Friday 20 November at 2:00 pm