

# Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 2:00 – 4:00pm  
International room, Kansas Union

Presiding: Michael C. Roberts

Members present: Mahasweta Banerjee, Monica Biernat, Aaron Clopton, James Daugherty, Van Kelly, Brian Laird, Tien-Tsung Lee (*in place of Scott Reinardy*), Sandra Olsen (*in place of Ben Chappell*), Mahbub Rashid, John Staniunas, and Sara Wilson

Staff: Austin Fitts and Roberta Pokphanh

Guests: Yvonne Chen, Erin Ellis, Marilu Goodyear, Reggie Robinson, Tom Volek, and Doug Ward

## AGENDA

### 1. Announcements

Feedback summary: Graduate Credit

### 2. Review of minutes: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014

### 3. Program proposal review (5)

*Public Affairs and Administration*

a) Graduate Certificate: Performance Management

b) Graduate Certificate: City and County Management

*School of Journalism*

c) Graduate Certificate: Data Interpretation and Communication

d) Graduate Certificate: Social Media Strategy

e) Master of Science in Digital Content Strategy

### 4. Discussion

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### 1. Announcements made by the Dean of Graduate Studies

Dean Roberts called the meeting to order at 2:06pm and opened discussion of the proposed Graduate Credit policy changes. The Council discussed the current feedback received from University stakeholders. To account for the distinction between transfer credit and a reduced hour degree, the Council recommended strengthening these definitions. The Council inquired about the need to change the policy and Dean Roberts provided background on the rules established by the Higher Learning Commission and the potential to attract master's students.

Dean Roberts addressed the feedback Graduate Studies received regarding the University offering credit for prior learning and the Council raised concern over the need to standardize prior learning credit at a policy level. Dean Roberts proposed reviewing a draft policy language in a future meeting after reviewing policies in KU's peer group and further review of the report produced by the Kansas Board of Regents.

### 2. Review of minutes: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014

Dean Roberts asked the Council to review the minutes from the November meeting. There were no comments or changes proposed.

Updated minutes are available on the Executive Council of Graduate Faculty website:  
<http://www.graduate.ku.edu/executive-council-graduate-faculty>

### 3. Program proposal review

#### Graduate Certificates: Performance Management and City and County Management (Public Affairs and Administration)

Dean Roberts introduced the program proposals currently under review and invited Professors Goodyear and Robinson to provide any details on their proposed certificate programs in Performance Management and City and County Management. Professor Goodyear gave a brief overview of the program's goals with the two new certificate programs. The Council asked about the courses potentially overlapping when students enroll in both certificate programs and Professor Goodyear indicated this should not be an issue given the small number of students they anticipate will enroll in these programs.

The Council unanimously moved to approve both certificate programs. Austin Fitts agreed to work with Public Affairs and Administration on some minor changes to the proposal documents before sending them forward to the Provost's Office for final approval.

#### Graduate Certificates: Data Interpretation and Communication Social Media Strategy Master of Science in Digital Content Strategy (School of Journalism)

Dean Roberts outlined the updates to the proposal documents in response to the Council's recommendations at the November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Council asked about the courses updated in the proposal and Professor Ward clarified the changes. The Council also inquired about resources for the programs and Erin Ellis provided information on the Libraries role in teaching as well as the Libraries' current goals aligning with the creation of the programs in Journalism. The Council thanked the representatives for their efforts on the proposal documents.

The Council unanimously moved to approved all three new programs in the School of Journalism and Austin Fitts agreed to follow up with Journalism on some minor changes.

### 4. Discussion

Dean Roberts raised discussion on whether plagiarism checks are necessary at the Graduate Division level for theses and dissertations. Dean Roberts also discussed the Chancellor's Graduate Fellowship and the University Graduate Fellowship with the Council.

Dean Roberts adjourned the meeting at 3:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Austin Fitts