

Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

Minutes for 25 March 2016

Present: Dean Michael C. Roberts (Chair), Norman Akers, Mahasweta Banerjee, Monica Biernat, Ben Chappell, James Daugherty, Apurba Dutta, Andy Fry, Ahreum Maeng, Mahbub Rashid, Scott Reinardy, Milena Stanislavova, Michael Werle (by phone), Sara Wilson, Assistant Dean Amanda Ostreko (Staff), Amber Roberts Graham (Staff), Jessy Ayestas Hernandez (Staff)

Absent: Paul Scott, Robert Klein (Ex Officio)

Also present: Lon Dehnert, Susan Twombly, Bob Isaacson, Young-Jin Lee, Hugo Sheward, Paola Sanguinetti, Chad Kraus

Called to Order at 14:03 pm

Announcements

- Dean Roberts announced that the Graduate Student Emergency Fund has been finalized. It currently has about \$1,000.00 available for use but Graduate Studies will be soliciting contributions to grow the principal.
- Dean Roberts announced that Graduate Studies will receive about the same amount of money for Minority Recruitment Initiatives next year as we received this year. Over the course of the 2015-16 academic year, we received over \$100,000.00 in requests and could only fund \$30,000.00. We may be able to fund up to \$40,000.00 next year, but that remains unclear.
- Assistant Dean Ostreko announced that the Center for Teaching Excellence held a half-day symposium on assessment and she attended. She will forward links to the online materials circulated during the symposium, as they may be useful and of general interest.
- Dean Roberts announced that KU is currently reviewing a policy proposal concerning the use of volunteers on campus. The policy seeks to restrict the use of volunteers, including on graduate thesis, dissertation, and exam committees. It is intended to address concerns about labour relations and the protection of paid work but may also pose significant limitations for some schools who rely on outside expertise to educate and examine their students. Dean Roberts has offered his comments on the proposal and would encourage the Council members to review it carefully and express any concerns they may have to himself or to Ola Faucher. He offered to circulate a copy of the draft to the Council.

Review of Minutes

- 26 February 2016
The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

New Program Proposals

- Dean Roberts introduced the representatives from the School of Education and explained how the Council approaches these reviews.

- Graduate Certificate in Learning and Performance Technology
 - *Representative: Professors Bob Isaacson, Ron Aust, and Young-Jin Lee*
 - Professors Isaacson, Aust, and Lee introduced a new Graduate Certificate proposal in Learning and Performance Technology and fielded questions. The certificate responds to requests from Kansas-City-area businesses to offer work-force oriented training programs at the Edwards campus.
 - The Council discussed the proposed admission requirements as well as the certificate's relationship to existing master's-level coursework and degree programs.
- Dean Roberts introduced the representatives from the School of Architecture.
- Assistant Dean Ostreko offered generalized feedback concerning some questions that Graduate Studies had for all three Architecture certificate proposals. Then the Council discussed each, specifically.
 - Graduate Certificate in Building Information Modeling (BIM)
 - * *Representative: Professor Professor Hugo Sheward*
 - * Professor Sheward introduced a new Graduate Certificate proposal in Building Information Modeling (BIM) and fielded questions.
 - Graduate Certificate in Designbuild
 - * *Representative: Professor Chad Kraus*
 - * Professor Kraus introduced a new Graduate Certificate proposal in Designbuild and fielded questions.
 - Graduate Certificate in Public Interest Design
 - * *Representative: Professor Paola Sanguinetti*
 - * Professor Sanguinetti introduced a new Graduate Certificate proposal in Public Interest Design and fielded questions.
- Following the discussion, representatives were excused and the Council held an *in-camera* discussion.

Vote

- The Council voted unanimously to approve the New Program Proposal in Learning and Performance Technology.
- The Council voted, with one abstention, to offer feedback and recommend revision of the New Program Proposal in Building Information Management (BIM).
- The Council voted, with one abstention, to offer feedback and recommend revision of the New Program Proposal in Designbuild.
- The Council voted, with one abstention, to offer feedback and recommend revision of the New Program Proposal in Public Interest Design.
- The Council recommended that Graduate Studies investigate the possibility of revising and improving the online forms used to propose certificates so they are easier to use.

Policy Proposals

- Revision: English Proficiency Requirements for Admission to Graduate Study
 - *Representative: Amber Roberts Graham*
 - We have been asked to update this policy clarifying our current practices.
 - Dean Roberts explained that we are clarifying our current practices with respect to three things:
 1. The Dean's authority to grant exceptions and allow admission
 2. The standardized tests KU accepts in order to grant admission
 3. The AEC's verification of proficiency once students have arrived
 - The Council discussed the motives for this change and its potential implications on standards and on processes. They enquired about how these revisions relate to recommendations made by the Department of Homeland Security.

Adjourned at 15:18 pm

Next Meeting: 22 April 2016 at 2:00 pm