

Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

April 25th, 2014, 2:00 – 4:00pm
CLAS Conference Room, 210 Strong Hall

Presiding: Michael Roberts

Members present: Ben Chappell, James Daugherty, Victor Frost, Van Kelly, Brian Laird, Tien-Tsung Lee, John Stanionas, John Stobaugh, and Mike Werle

Staff: Austin Fitts and Roberta Pokphanh

AGENDA

1. Announcements:
 - a) Election 2014-2017
 - b) Autism Spectrum Disorders certificate: *Approved by the Council via email on March 28th, 2014*
2. Review of minutes: February 28th, 2014
3. New programs:
 - a) Certificate in Business Analytics
 - b) Global MBA: Joint degree in Business and the Center for Global and International Studies
 - c) Certificate in the Center for Global and International Studies
4. Policy review:
 - a) Master's exam committee composition
 - b) Doctoral exam committee composition
 - c) Outside committee member on doctoral exams

1. Announcements made by the Dean of Graduate Studies:

Dean Roberts opened the meeting at 2:03pm and provided the Council with an update on the Executive Council election for 2014-2017. Dean Roberts also announced that nominations for the Argersinger award are open.

Dean Roberts thanked the Council for reviewing the new certificate program in Autism Spectrum Disorders and informed them that the program was approved by the Provost's Office.

2. Review of minutes: February 28th, 2014 meeting

Dean Roberts opened the floor for questions about the minutes from the February 28th, 2014, and there were no objections. The motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously. Updated minutes are available on the Executive Council website:

<http://www.graduate.ku.edu/executive-council-graduate-faculty>

3. New programs review:

- a) Dean Roberts provided the Council with some information provided by the School of Business and then introduced Dr. Steve Hillmer. Professor Lee asked whether units on campus offer coursework on data visualization and Dr. Hillmer provided details on other courses and the business orientation of the particular courses in the proposal.

Dean Roberts asked the Council for any final questions about the new certificate. The Council unanimously approved the certificate program.

- b) Dean Roberts introduced Dr. Mike Wuthrich and then asked about who will teach the courses. Dr. Wuthrich offered some details about the link between the School of Business and Center for Global and International Studies (CGIS) and that the courses will be taught by established professors in the program. Dr. Wuthrich indicated that the program would take about three years to complete.

Professor Daugherty asked about the total hours needed if a student pursued the existing degrees independently and Dr. Wuthrich broke down the credit hour details. Dr. Wuthrich also pointed out the proposed reduction in credit hours for the CGIS master's degree.

Professor Werle inquired about whether the Kansas Board of Regents would need to approve the proposal and whether Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes would be required. The Council discussed the pursuing two separate degrees, including how information in the student record, the admission process, and tracking these students.

The Council discussed joint degrees at length and several members gave examples of how these programs work in their units. The Council agreed that more information is needed to move the Global MBA proposal forward and Austin Fitts agreed to follow up with the School of Business.

- c) Dean Roberts moved the discussion to the new CGIS certificate and Dr. Wuthrich provided details about the need for the program. Dean Roberts asked the Council for any final questions about the new certificate. The Council unanimously approved the certificate program.

4. Policy review:

- a) Professor Frost asked about research faculty being allowed to chair committees and asked whether this is a policy change. Dean Roberts and Austin Fitts provided details on when this policy changed in spring 2012 with the removal of "Ad Hoc" Graduate faculty status.

The Council discussed the nature of Graduate Faculty status and the process for obtaining each status. The Council discussed several topics, including exceptions to the current policy, a potential new "Thesis" Graduate faculty status, and allowing exceptions to allowing "Special" members to chair master's committees.

Professors Laird and Chappell recommended approval of the proposed policy drafts as long as the number of exceptions is monitored for future review. Austin Fitts provided the Council with details on the ongoing university-wide review of the policies and the current comment period ending May 15th.

- b) Dean Roberts indicated that the discussion on the Master's exam committee composition policy closely applies to the Doctoral exam committee composition.
- c) Dean Roberts explained the need for an Outside committee member policy. The Council discussed adding language about the outside member's expertise, independent perspective, and lack of vested interest in the exam outcome. Professor Frost expressed interest in a conflict of interest statement and also suggested that the Director of Graduate Studies in each program have rights related to the approval of individual student exam committees.

The Council further discussed the voting rights of the outside member and some members shared their experience serving as the outside member.

Dean Roberts thanked the Council for their time and adjourned the meeting at 3:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Austin Fitts