

Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

January 24th, 2014, 2:00 – 4:00pm
CLAS Conference Room, 210 Strong Hall

Presiding: Michael Roberts

Members present: Ben Chappell, Promothesh Chatterjee, Aaron Clopton, James Daugherty, David Ekerdt, Victor Frost, Steve Kapp, Van Kelly, Brian Laird, Tien-Tsung Lee, Mahbub Rashid, John Staniunas, John Stobaugh, and Mike Werle

Guests: Daniel Coburn and Andrea Herstowski

Staff: Austin Fitts and Roberta Pokphanh

AGENDA

1. Announcements: Elections, calendar changes, and scholarship subcommittees
2. Review of minutes: December 13th, 2013
3. New concentration proposal: Architecture, Design, and Planning, MFA in Photography
4. Policy Review:
 - a) Permit to Re-enroll
 - b) Graduate Student Committee Composition

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1. Announcements made by the Dean of Graduate Studies:

Dean Roberts opened the meeting at 2:02 and introduced himself. Dean Roberts briefly discussed his transition to his new role as Dean of Graduate Studies and asked that everyone introduce themselves. Dean Roberts brought up changes for the Council to consider, which included voting procedures, the spring schedule, and 2014-2017 elections to the Council. Dean Roberts moved the discussion to scholarship selection sub-committees and Assistant Dean Pokphanh provided the Council with information on the standard scholarship selection process.

2. Review of minutes: December 13th, 2013 meeting
Dean Roberts opened the floor for any questions about the minutes from the December 13th, 2013 meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written.

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

3. Program Proposals:

Professor Coburn provided the Council with a brief description of the proposal for a new master of fine arts (MFA) concentration in Photography. Professor Coburn continued by describing programs at other institutions, and explained accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Professor Kelly inquired about collaboration with the School of the Arts. Professor Staniunas commented on behalf of the Arts that the program would be a welcome addition.

Professor Ekerdt asked if undergraduates are already taking the courses listed in the concentration proposal and Professor Coburn indicated that the courses would be cross-listed.

Professor Coburn noted that more advanced courses will be developed over time. Members of the Council had further discussion about the curriculum listed in the proposal.

Professor Chatterjee raised the question of admitting students. The Council discussed distinguishing undergraduate and graduate students in the program, including how undergraduates transition into the graduate program.

Dean Roberts asked the Council for any final questions about the new concentration proposal. The concentration proposal was approved with a request to the program for clarifications. Austin Fitts agreed to communicate the Council's recommendations to Professors Coburn and Herstowski before moving it forward to the Provost's Office.

4. Policy Review

a) Permit to Re-enroll

Dean Roberts provided an overview of the purpose of the new policy and Professor Laird raised his concern about allowing students to return after being discontinued. Professor Chappell informed the Council that his concerns were addressed with the added language.

Professor Frost indicated that revising the policy may result in students being "grandfathered" in. Professor Kelly raised the Council's awareness about students that study abroad and Assistant Dean Pokphanh indicated that there are processes for these cases put in place by the Office of Study Abroad.

Dean Roberts asked the Council for any final questions about the new policy. The policy proposal was approved with one member opposed and one abstention.

b) Graduate student oral exam committee composition

Dean Roberts introduced the policy and Assistant Dean Pokphanh indicated that this policy is not up for a vote at this time.

Professor Laird raised the Council's awareness that the policy changes proposed as written will exclude courtesy faculty from serving as the Outside committee member. Professor Frost indicated that research appointments will also not qualify as the Outside member under the revised policy.

Professor Frost asked for clarification in the policy regarding who can serve as the Outside committee member. Professor Kapp continued by adding that KU Affiliates must also be given consideration under the revised policy. The Council also discussed Professors of the Practice chairing committees.

In closing, the Council discussed the option of specific categories of faculty described in the policy versus an updated list of programs with exceptions to the policy.

Dean Roberts asked about issues or updates from the KU Medical Center and Professor Werle informed the Council about policies under consideration that may affect the Lawrence campus.

Dean Roberts thanked the Council for its hard work and wished them a productive spring semester. The meeting was adjourned at 3:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Austin Fitts