

Executive Council of Graduate Faculty

September 26th, 2014, 2:00 – 4:00pm
CLAS Conference Room, 210 Strong Hall

Presiding: Michael C. Roberts

Members present: Monica Biernat, Promothesh Chatterjee, 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, and Sara Wilson

Staff: Austin Fitts and Roberta Pokphanh

AGENDA

1. Announcements
 - a) Policy updates
 - b) University Graduate Fellowship: Call for applications
 - c) Adding an Executive Council member from the School of Law
 2. Review of minutes: August 29th, 2014
 3. Policy review:
 - a) Master's Student Oral Exam Committee Composition Exemption: Speech, Language, Hearing
 - b) Graduate Credit
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1. Announcements made by the Dean of Graduate Studies

Dean Roberts opened the meeting at 2:02pm and announced that the policies approved in the August Executive Council meeting are now available in the online Policy Library.

Dean Roberts announced the beginning of the University Graduate Fellowship review process, and invited Assistant Dean Pokphanh to provide the Council with further details. The Council inquired about the timeline and review process and members of the Council volunteered.

Dean Roberts discussed the Executive Council review of graduate certificates in the School of Law. The Council discussed the need and the history of adding a representative from the School of Law to the Executive Council. Assistant Dean Pokphanh provided some history on the professional schools being part of the former Graduate School. Dean Roberts welcomed ongoing conversation on adding a School of Law representative to the Council.

2. Review of minutes: August 29th, 2014

Dean Roberts noted the process for producing the Executive Council meeting minutes and opened the floor for questions about the minutes from August 29th, 2014. The motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

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

3. Policy review

a) Dean Roberts introduced Dr. Jane Wegner from Speech, Language, Hearing (SPLH) and gave a brief summary of the exemption process in place for the Master's Student Oral Exam Committee Composition policy.

The Council asked for details related to how clinical faculty differ from KU employees with Regular graduate faculty status and Dr. Wegner described the role of clinical faculty in SPLH. Dean Roberts provided details on how KU handles these faculty compared to other universities.

The Council asked about the difference between thesis and non-thesis students in the exemption request letter and Dr. Wegner provided more details.

The Council moved to approve the exemption to allow clinical faculty in Speech, Language, Hearing to chair master's student committees.

- b) Dean Roberts discussed the current policy on graduate credit and provided examples of how the University could move toward allowing more master's program credit to be transferred from another institution. The Council inquired about the definition of graduate credit.

Members of the Council discussed having reservations about counting courses already used to complete a graduate degree at KU or at another institution. Assistant Dean Pokphanh indicated how this process works at the undergraduate level. The Council discussed examples of students earning a certificate on their way to the graduate degree and how being more flexible with transfer credit could benefit the University.

Dean Roberts wished the Council a nice weekend and adjourned the meeting at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Austin Fitts