

GRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting
January 24, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Dean Judith Walker de Felix. Members in attendance: Kuei-Hsiang Hsueh, Beth Huebner, E. Paulette Isaac-Savage, Susan Kashubeck-West, David Kimball, Michael Nichols, Wendy Olivas, William Rogers, Ann Steffen, Pamela Stuerke, Ben Torbert, Wes Harris, Associate Dean. Members absent: Carl Bassi, Michael Griffin, Alan Heisel, Haitao Li.

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 15, 2013 meeting were approved.

II. Course Proposals

The following course changes were reviewed and approved:

- Ed Adm 6200 Demographic Contexts of Education
- Cns Ed 6375 Clinical Mental Health Counseling Practicum II
- Cns Ed 6270 School Counseling Practicum
- Cns Ed 6370 Clinical Mental Health Counseling Practicum I
- Bio 6920 Topics in Biology
- Acct 5447 Taxation of Individuals and Businesses
- Acct 5451 Accounting & Auditing in Governmental and Not-for-Profit Entities
- Acct 5441 Tax Research
- Acct 4441 Advanced Federal income Tax Business Taxation
- Mktg 5730 Clinical Study in Digital and Social Media Marketing

The following new courses were reviewed and approved:

- Fin 6582 International Bank Management
- LogOm 5349 Project Consulting and Execution
- Mktg 5731 Special Seminars in Digital and Social Media Marketing
- PPA 6470 Proseminar in Urban Politics
- PPA 6471 Seminar in urban Politics

Council moved to include friendly amendments contingent upon approval:

- Ed Adm 6200 Demographic Contexts of Education (department will be asked to add a prerequisite such as 'graduate standing'. Once done, it will be approved and forwarded to the Senate C & I.)
- Bio 6502 Advanced Evolution of Cognition (this course needs a sign-off from the Psychology department. Once that happens, it will be approved and forwarded to the Senate C & I.)

III. Program Proposals

Council reviewed and approved the following program proposals:

- Ph.D. Business Administration – minor changes
- Graduate Certificate in Digital and Social Media Marketing – new graduate certificate

IV. Dean's Report

The dean distributed an OSU data sheet showing stipend data for the university. Because our university is on the low end of stipends the Strategic Planning committee submitted a proposal to request additional funding for stipends. Although that proposal was not awarded, we were able to increase the recruitment fellowship stipends by \$1000 each.

The Office of International Studies is only using transcript evaluations from WES for undergraduate applicants. They will continue to offer transcript evaluation by their staff for any applicant who does not provide a WES translation. The policy/bulletin will need to be changed if a revision to 3.7 is approved by Graduate Council and then by the Graduate Faculty.

ISS Rationale: "In order to maintain consistency with admission standards, ISS will only accept conversions from WES when processing undergraduate applications for Fall 2014 and beyond. We will continue to offer in-house conversions as well, so undergraduate applicants are able to submit either original transcripts or WES reports with their applications."

Quick Admit update (handout)

The quick admit process takes up to one week to finalize applications. The process is working well. All departments will be encouraged to use Quick Admit in Fall 2014. Its use is intended for late applicants who show promise and the GPD wishes the application to be processed quickly. Quick Admit is not intended to replace the normal application procedure.

Graduate School Application Fee. The application fee for graduates will be raised to \$50 from \$35. The Graduate School will keep the extra \$15 and use it for staff help in Graduate Admissions. It was suggested the fee be implemented for fall 2014 but only for those who apply after the July 1 deadline.

Spring 2014 Statistics

Graduate applications are up by 13% and admissions are up by 4%.

Undergraduate Researchers

The Strategic Planning Committee is looking for ways to emphasize undergraduate research on campus. Wes Harris is working on a plan to include undergraduate researchers in the Graduate School Research Fair.

Suggested Policy Change 8.9 for M1 and M4

The M1 states that it should be filed with the Graduate School no later than when a student is 2/3 of the way through their program. Some come in when the student first arrives on campus, others when they are half-way through, others 2/3 through and others not until graduation. When they arrive before graduation, there are always changes that need to be made to the original form. That means we are spending a lot of time looking at the forms twice. Jamie Zurliene, academic evaluator, suggests that the M1 be used purely as an advising tool between the program advisor and the student. In the semester that the student is ready to graduate, a new combined M1/M4 would be submitted and used to determine graduation eligibility. The Dean will work on the proposed wording for 8.9 and distribute it before the February meeting.

Strategic Planning Update

Two types of scholarships have been recommended for funding. One is a request for \$250,000 for course shortfall. The second one relates to promoting degree attainment. Entitled "Graduate Student Master's Scholarships", it is intended as a one-time award to attract high achieving UMSL undergraduates. The proposal to increase GA stipends on campus did not get approved by the committee. However, we were able to increase the recruitment fellowships from \$4000/AY to \$5000/AY.

Council was asked to find creative ways to get more graduate programs online. The President is looking for bold ideas.

Strategic Plan proposals will be submitted to UM on March 15.

Corporate Recruiter Position

We had a failed search for this position and have decided to split the position into two areas. One person will work with undergraduate students. The other person will go out to the community and may coordinate their efforts with the Career Placement staff.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Heckel for
Michael Griffin, Secretary
and Vice-Chairperson