

University Graduate Council Minutes

Richards Hall, VPAA Conference Room

August 11, 2017

Council Members in Attendance

Dr. Nicholas Bolden, Chair (COLS)
Dr. Ellen Roberts (AA), Associate Provost
Dr. Kevin Burgess (COLS)
Dr. Ilaria Scaglia for Dr. John Ellisor (COLS)
Dr. Tammy Condrey (COEHP)
Dr. John Finley (TCOB)
Dr. Tom Hackett (COEHP)
Dr. Shamim Khan (TCOB)
Dr. Saoussan Maarouf (COEHP)
Mr. Joe Sanders for Dr. Scott Harris (COA).

Topics

Item 1: Welcome, Lunch, and Approval of Minutes.

- Dr. Bolden called the meeting to order and the council approved the July minutes with revisions noted.

Item 2: Report from the Associate Provost for Graduate Education.

- Dr. Roberts reported on progress made in Tucker Hall for the graduate school office. Tables in meeting room have the ability to be reconfigured for small group study, practice presentations, night meetings, and lunch-and-learns. Upcoming plans for lounge and lobby updates. For lobby areas, this should be reflective of student work and may need input from programs on current projects and plans. The first Graduate Student Advisory Board meeting will be on August 31, and students will be asked for input on needs for graduate student space.
- Graduate student enrollment is up slightly but needs to increase. Some programs are still admitting so this will change enrollment numbers.
- Graduate assistants are currently down in number to 63 for fall (compared to 103 last fall), but there should be more GAs adding. Graduate assistant training will be offered August 18th from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Lumpkin Center. Graduate council members asked to volunteer for panel and roundtable participation: Dr. Bolden, Dr. Khan, and Dr. Burgess volunteered to assist.
- Academic Program Forecast submitted to Board of Regents included two Graduate level programs: Master of Public Health and M.Ed. in Informal Science Education.

Item 3: Old Business: Approval of Graduate Faculty:

- The Graduate Council approved one for full graduate faculty status, two for associate graduate faculty status, and 17 for provisional graduate faculty status. Three were returned for needed updates of courses being taught or statement on teaching effectiveness.

Item 4: New Business:

- Graduate Student half-time status: Dr. Hackett discussed a potential for change in offering financial aid to graduate students taking 3 hours versus 4; this is due to the effects on students working on dissertation and would only be enrolled in a 3-hour course. Other departments are also affected since most courses were three hours and this is a barrier for student enrollment. Discussion on this as previous change under Dr. Mescon in 2013 that was not sustained. This has temporarily been solved for these students by adding a one-hour additional dissertation course but needs to be reviewed again before having to affect the curriculum of programs. Committee members will research history of this with these changes made and report at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.