

University Graduate Council Minutes

Richards Hall, VPAA Conference Room

December 8, 2017

Council Members in Attendance

Dr. Nicholas Bolden, Chair (COLS)
Dr. Kevin Burgess (COLS)
Dr. Tammy Condrey (COEHP)
Dr. John Finley (TCOB)
Dr. Scott Harris (COA)
Dr. Shamim Khan (TCOB)

Dr. Saoussan Maarouf
Dr. Ilaria Scaglia (COLS)
Dr. Margie Yates (COEHP)
Ex-Officio Members:
Dr. Ellen Roberts (AA), Associate Provost

Topics

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

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

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

- Dr. Roberts asked Dr. Burgess to report on recent attendance and participation in the International Barcode of Life Conference- 500 delegates from around the world participated in the conference in South Africa. Dr. Burgess supervised submission of 5 CSU-affiliated poster presentations by students with one student, Lauren Whitehurst, winning best poster. Dr. Burgess and students assisted with the conference and stayed to do field work afterwards.
- There has been a change in the Command College leadership which increased the number of graduate faculty needs for them.

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 twelve for provisional graduate faculty status.

Item 4: Old Business: Graduate Student half-time status:

- With potential change in half-time status, Dr. Roberts reported that this project was waiting on John McElveen and Russ Romandini to determine technicalities with financial aid if half-time status was reduced in number of hours from 4 to 3.

Item 5: Old Business: Completion of the Thesis/Dissertation (Grading/Continuous Enrollment/Defense)

- Dr. Roberts asked for a report from committee members on how this is currently managed in individual departments related to courses/number of hours/grading.
- With Computer Science, students receive a grade of S/U for Thesis proposal course and Thesis course; Thesis course can be repeated more than once with a grade of IP assigned.
- With History, students can repeat a course twice for Thesis with first grade being A-F and 2nd grade being same if finished and IP if not. A Defense course has been approved and will be added.
- With Biology, 12 hours total required- grade of S and after 12, grade of IP; with Environmental Science/Chemistry, letter grade given instead.
- Discussion on potential for discipline-specific grading/thesis requirements as well as need to compare how other institutions are managing grading with continuous enrollment.

Action: With next Graduate Council meeting on January 12th, graduate program directors and members of college appeal committees, as stakeholders, to be invited for lunch to provide input on academic policies related to thesis development and defense, continuous enrollment and grading requirements.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.