

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES, Meeting 426

February 6, 2015

2:00 p.m., 260 University Center

PRESENT: R. Kreuz (CAS), G. Emmert (CHEM), S. Neely-Barnes (SWRK), J. Scraba (ENGL), L. Brooks (FCBE), Q. Chu (FIN), B. Krishnan (FCBE), M. Logan (CCFA), A. de Velasco (COMM), M. O'Nele (THEA), V. Morris (CEHHS), J. Byford (ICL), L. Weiss (HSS), R. Meier (CIVIL ENGR), C. Preza (EECE), K. Berisso (ENGR TECH), D. Wark (SCSD), G. Shiba (NURSE), M. Levy (SPH), B. Akey (UNIV COLLEGE), J. Berman (Faculty Senate), K. Duckett (GSA), J. Dhaliwal (Graduate School), J. Kierulff (Graduate School), L. Griggs (Graduate Admissions), A. Neal (Library)

ABSENT: L. Jarmulowicz (SCSD), D. Sherrell (MSCM)(proxy=L. Brooks), W. Haggard (ENGR)(proxy=R. Meier), J. Oswaks (NURSE)

GUESTS: Robin Poston, College of Business; Wade Jackson, Faculty Senate; Erno Lindner, Faculty Senate; Harvey Lomax, Faculty Senate; Catherine Simmons, SUAPP; Joy Clay, SUAPP; Stan Hyland, SUAPP

J. Dhaliwal opened the meeting at 2:02 p.m. when a quorum was attained.

J. Berman made a motion (2/M. O'Nele) that agenda item 426.18 be moved to the beginning of the agenda in order to accommodate our guests from the Faculty Senate.

426.1: R. Meier moved (2/M. Levy) to approve the minutes from meeting #425, held on December 12, 2014. The motion was carried by voice vote.

426.18: J. Berman expressed the concerns of the Faculty Senate regarding the failure of the UCGS to discuss the changes to the Role of the Graduate School and the UCGS By-laws proposed by the Faculty Senate. He noted that the Faculty Senate worked very hard during the fall semester on these proposed changes that would "bring UCGS policy in line with the Faculty Senate Constitution and the Faculty Handbook."

Dr. Harvey Lomax addressed the council, reviewing the changes to the Role of the Graduate School and the UCGS By-laws proposed by the Faculty Senate. He expressed concern about the refusal of the council to consider the motions proposed by the Faculty Senate at UCGS meeting #425.

L. Weiss noted that he did not see a motion in the handout provided by the Faculty Senate. J. Dhaliwal explained that there was no concrete motion on the table; rather the Faculty Senate requested the discussion of a motion passed during the last meeting of the Faculty Senate. M. Logan clarified that the Faculty Senate motion was a request for Faculty Senators to contact the UCGS members.

J. Dhaliwal thanked the Faculty Senate for their input, noting that what happened at the previous UCGS meeting was not negative. He asked that the Faculty Senate embrace the UCGS members, noting that it is good if all of our faculty are engaged.

There was much discussion regarding the items proposed by the Faculty Senate and the council's decision to leave these items tabled. G. Emmert stated that the idea that the Faculty Senate motions were not considered is not true. The issues were discussed during UCGS meeting #424 and the items were tabled. The failure to bring the items back to the floor during UCGS meeting #425 was indicative of the opinion among the room. M. O'Nele replied that the Faculty Senate's concern is about the opinion that there was no need for further discussion of these issues.

M. Logan asked if the same changes are being discussed at the Undergraduate council. J. Berman replied that the Faculty Senate is starting with changes at the graduate level and then they plan to move forward at the undergraduate level.

There was more discussion regarding the Faculty Senate Constitution. M. O'Nele stated that the UCGS is in violation of what the University documents state the council should do. R. Meier noted that he cannot find in the Faculty Senate Constitution where the senate is granted prevue over graduate curriculum. G. Emmert concurred. M. Levy proposed enforcing a time limit to the discussion. M. Logan agreed, suggesting that a sub-committee of the UCGS work with the Faculty Senate to craft something that satisfies both bodies. M. Levy moved (L. Weiss) to close the debate. The motion was carried by voice vote.

J. Dhaliwal said he would follow up on M. Logan's suggestion. He noted that this is a great opportunity to rethink how we do things. J. Dhaliwal wants to find a model of faculty governance that works well, is efficient, that energizes faculty members and encourages discussion. He suggested we look at other universities and how they function to gather ideas. He thanked the Faculty Senate for attending the meeting and providing their input.

426.2: Dr. Catherine Simmons presented the proposal for a new PhD program in Urban Affairs. V. Morris suggested integrating more education courses and soliciting a letter of support from the Shelby County School system. Dr. Simmons

was very receptive to these suggestions. M. Levy noted that the School of Public Health is very much in support of this proposal. G. Emmert moved (2/L. Weiss) to approve the proposal for the PhD program in Urban Affairs. The motion was carried by voice vote.

426.3: Dr. Robin Poston presented the council with a proposal to change the name of the Department of Management Information Systems. The Department is proposing to change their name to "Business Information and Technology." She noted that the name "Management Information Systems" is not reflective of the program. L. Weiss moved (2/D. Wark) to approve the name change. The motion was carried by voice vote.

426.4: B. Akey explained to the council the reasoning behind the proposed Experiential Learning Credit course. ELC 7115 gives the university a course that can be used across campus by departments that don't have an existing experiential learning course. J. Dhaliwal noted that this helps us conform with the undergraduate side. There was some discussion regarding the particulars of how this course will function. B. Akey moved (2/R. Meier) to approve ELC 7115. The motion was carried by voice vote.

426.5: R. Kreuz explained the background behind the proposed change to the name of the Division of Public and Non-Profit Management to the Department of Public and Non-Profit Management. There was some discussion about the difference is between a division and a department. R. Kreuz noted that changing from a division to a department brings things in SUAPP more in line. It also increases the pay for the chair. R. Kreuz moved (2/M. O'Nele) to approve the proposed name change. The motion was carried by voice vote.

426.6: R. Kreuz moved (2/G. Emmert) to approve the proposed named change of the Division of City and Regional Planning to the Department of City and Regional Planning.

426.7: J. Dhaliwal provided the council with information on Graduate School fellowships. There was some discussion regarding the deadline for the Van Vleet fellowship. J. Dhaliwal suggested that next year the deadline be extended to March 1, 2016.

426.8: J. Dhaliwal announced that the Graduate School has selected Jenny Jarvis to attend the Graduate Education Week in Tennessee event in Nashville.

426.9: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the Graduate School Recruitment Fair will be March 17, 2015. He asked for the council members help posting flyers and encouraging students to attend.

426.10: J. Dhaliwal reminded the council that the Student Research Forum will be held March 30, 2015. The Graduate School is still looking for people to volunteer to be judges. J. Dhaliwal asked that the council members help encourage students to participate in this event.

426.11: J Dhaliwal informed the council that the Graduate School is starting a marketing campaign based on the idea that "A bachelor's degree is not enough for success in the modern workplace." He noted that the Graduate School is looking for programs to feature. However, there are limited resources so it is important to identify specific areas that will benefit the most from advertising.

426.12: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the Graduate School is trying to distribute data regularly via Application Activity Reports. The Strategic Enrollment Committee is working to standardize the data used in these reports. M. Logan noted that the reports with the names and email addresses of the applicants are the most helpful. J. Dhaliwal reminded the council to contact the Graduate School if they need data sooner, or more frequently, than it is currently being distributed. He also asked the council to please include their new admissions liaisons in their college/school meetings. J. Dhaliwal stated that we are probably losing roughly 10%-15% of students due to confusion about the admissions process.

426.13: J. Dhaliwal asked the council members to continue on promoting their graduate certificate programs. There are a lot of graduate certificate programs and we do not want them to end up on TBR's low producing list.

426.14: J. Dhaliwal asked the council to consider the idea of decentralizing the process of releasing holds. J. Kierulff explained that the current process does not seem efficient. He noted that at the undergraduate level the process is decentralized. J. Dhaliwal asked for the council's opinion. M. Levy replied that she thinks decentralizing the process will make it more efficient and is a better way to do business. D. Wark noted that it depends on the type of hold, as some may still need to be reviewed by J. Kierulff. The council requested a list of the various types of holds. J. Dhaliwal noted that at this point he is simply gathering feedback.

J. Dhaliwal informed the council that this past fall the Graduate School piloted the use of UMDegree with Social Work and the MBA programs. S. Neely-Barnes will discuss her experience with it at the next program leaders training. He noted that there are many processes that need to be "cleaned up" and the Graduate School is open to everyone's ideas.

426.15: J. Dhaliwal discussed the issue of health coverage for graduate assistants. He informed the council that roughly 3-4 million dollars would be needed from

the Graduate Assistantship budget in order to provide graduate assistants with health insurance. Therefore, the Graduate School is working with the Church Health Center to provide a type of health coverage to our graduate assistants. Students will pay \$40.00 a month and the Graduate School will pay \$10.00 a month. The specific details of the plan are still being worked out. C. Preza asked if international students are eligible to participate. J. Dhaliwal responded that they are not eligible, as all international students are required to buy health insurance when they enroll. K. Duckett noted that this plan was very well received by the Graduate Student Association. J. Dhaliwal asked the council to email J. Kierulff and himself with feedback, as they would like the council's help shaping the program.

426.16: J. Dhaliwal reminded the council that graduate assistant stipends were decentralized last year. The handout distributed allows the council to review how departments are using their money.

426.17: J. Kierulff informed the council that the Graduate School and Graduate Student Association have been working together to provide a series of professional development seminars for graduate students. He recognized K. Duckett for her hard work on this project. M. Levy asked when and where these seminars will be held. J. Kierulff replied on Thursdays at 4:30. The first seminar will be February 26, 2015. J. Dhaliwal noted that the professional development of graduate students is a national issue. V. Morris suggested that there be a seminar on financial literacy. M. O'Nele advocated for a seminar addressing how to handle one's first contract. J. Dhaliwal thanked the council for their great ideas. M. Levy suggested we advertise these professional development seminars at the Recruitment Fair. There was some discussion about the Recruitment Fair and when it was scheduled. C. Preza suggested the Graduate School combine the Student Research Forum with the Recruitment Fair.

J. Dhaliwal asked that if any of the council members are interested in serving on the Faculty Senate sub-committee to please contact him.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Kyle.