

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES, Meeting 427

April 3, 2015

2:00 p.m., 260 University Center

PRESENT: R. Kreuz (CAS), S. Neely-Barnes (SWRK), J. Scraba (ENGL), L. Brooks (FCBE), Q. Chu (FIN), D. Sherrell (MSCM), B. Krishnan (FCBE), M. Logan (CCFA), A. de Velasco (COMM), L. Weiss (HSS), W. Haggard (ENGR), R. Meier (CIVIL ENGR), K. Berisso (ENGR TECH), D. Wark (SCSD), 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)

ABSENT: G. Emmert (CHEM)(proxy = R. Kreuz), M. O'Nele (THEA)(proxy = M. Logan), V. Morris (CEHHS)(proxy = L. Weiss), J. Byford (ICL), C. Preza (EECE)(proxy = R. Meier), L. Jarmulowicz (SCSD), G. Shiba (NURSE)(proxy = M. Levy), J. Oswaks (NURSE), A. Neal (Library)

GUESTS:

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

427.1: S. Neely-Barnes moved (2/D. Sherrell) to approve the minutes from meeting #426, held on February 6, 2015. The motion was carried by voice vote.

427.2: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the Recruitment Fair went well and had good attendance. He noted that the last hour of the fair is critical and we need faculty and staff to remain at their tables until the very end. He also stated that the Graduate School is considering having the next spring recruitment fair in conjunction with the Student Research Forum. J. Dhaliwal will also form a sub-committee to help organize the event.

427.3: J. Dhaliwal remarked that the Student Research Forum went well, with participation up 50% from last year. However, there was a problem finding enough judges. J. Dhaliwal recognized K. Duckett for her contributions to making the event a success.

427.4: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the reports should be sent on the 11th of each month. He noted that he is pleased with the progress made in the Graduate Admissions Office.

427.5: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that he would like to resolve all outstanding issues regarding the UCGS bylaws and the Roles of the Graduate School document. Therefore a list of motions was presented to the council for their approval.

- Motion #1: M. Logan moved (2/J. Berman) to approve the motion to “provide timely information to the Faculty Senate about proposed revisions in graduate programs and courses, and seek the Faculty Senate’s recommendations.” There were fourteen votes in favor of approving the motion, six against approving the motion and one abstention. The motion carried by voice vote.
- Motion #2: There was not a motion to discuss this item.
- Motion #3: J. Berman moved to approve the motion to add an additional Faculty Senate representative to the UCGS. There was no second to his motion.
- Motion #4: M. Levy moved (2/R. Kreuz) to approve the motion to add one voting member to the UCGS from the School of Nursing. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Motion #5: M. Levy moved (2/L. Weiss) to approve the motion to add one voting member to the UCGS from the University College. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Motion #6: L. Weiss moved (2/S. Neely-Barnes) to approve the motion to alter Article III, Section 1 to read, “In the Dean's absence, the chair shall fall respectively to the Graduate Directors from the Colleges in rotation beginning with the College Director who has served on the Council for the longest time.” The motion was approved unanimously.
- Motion #7: R. Meier moved (2/M. Levy) to approve the motion to increase the term of UCGS members from two years to three years. There were seventeen votes in favor of the motion, one vote against the motion, and four abstentions. The motion was carried by voice vote.
- Motion #8: J. Berman moved to approve the motion regarding the Faculty Senate administering the UCGS elections. There was no second to the motion.
- Motion #9: There was no motion to discuss the item.
- Motion #10: S. Neely-Barnes moved (2/M. Levy) to approve the motion to adopt the Role of the Graduate School Document. There were twenty votes in favor of the motion, zero votes against the motion and one abstention. The motion was carried by voice vote.
- Motion #11: J. Berman moved (2/M. Logan) to approve the motion to add to the Role of the Graduate School document, “Support the Faculty Handbook when it calls for the Faculty Senate “to evaluate and make recommendations on policy in academic and closely related areas that

touch on academic policies.” L. Weiss remarked that the statement is a bit vague and could lead to a slippery slope. J. Berman stated that the Faculty Senate may view the exclusion of this item as the UCGS refusing to provide the Faculty Senate with curricular items. R. Meier replied that the wording of this item does not refer to curricular materials. There was one vote in favor of the motion, eighteen votes against the motion and two abstentions. The motion was not passed.

427.6: J. Kierulff informed the council that the Graduate School is moving to delegate the releasing of holds to individual departments. D. Wark noted that each department will need to designate who will be approving the releasing of holds. It was decided that retroactive withdrawals will remain the Graduate School’s responsibility.

427.7: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the even in Nashville for Graduate Education Week went very well. M. Logan noted that the student representative chosen to represent the University of Memphis Graduate School was excellent. J. Dhaliwal reminded the council that the event in Nashville helps to build our relationship with legislators and decision makers.

427.9: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the Graduate School is doing a lot of new marketing, specifically online, on billboards, and buses. He is open to suggestions regarding the best way to market graduate education.

427.10: J. Dhaliwal asked the council members to continue promoting graduate certificate programs.

427.11: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the second professional development seminar went very well and had great attendance.

427.12: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the university might hire an international student recruiter to increase the number of international students on campus. Also, J. Kierulff is working with individual departments on international student recruitment. J. Dhaliwal asked the council members to please send him their suggestions and engage him on this issue.

427.13: B. Akey moved (2/S. Neely-Barnes) to approve the revision to the Master’s in Leadership and Policy Studies concentration in School Administration and Supervision. There were twenty votes in favor of the motion and one abstention. The motion was carried by voice vote.

427.14: R. Kreuz moved (2/S. Neely-Barnes) to approve the proposal for a graduate certificate program in Bioinformatics. The motion passed unanimously.

427.16: D. Wark moved (B. Akey) to approve the credit hour revision to AUSP 8101. The motion passed unanimously.

427.15: J. Kierulff suggested that the statement of degree be removed from the list of items required of international students. Instead he suggested the statement of degree be optional. J. Dhaliwal noted that many of our competitors do not require WES evaluations. He asked the council if we should also consider dropping this requirement, as it seems to be a barrier to entry into the Graduate School. It was decided that a general policy is not the best way to address this issue and that individual departments should decide. B. Krishnan remarked that it will make us more competitive if we do not require WES evaluations. D. Wark warned that caution should be exercised, as fraud does occur. J. Dhaliwal stated that the Graduate School will let each program determine if they want to require WES evaluations. We will revisit this issue at our next meeting.

J. Dhaliwal announced that the 2015-2016 Graduate Catalog will be published online on April 10, 2015.

J. Dhaliwal informed the council that he has requested a meeting with Pam Knox from TBR. The meeting is to learn about the new policies and processes regarding academic program proposals and how we can make the process smoother.

J. Dhaliwal announced that the Interdisciplinary committee will present their findings at our next meeting.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Kyle.