

Winthrop University Graduate Faculty Assembly
Minutes, September 28, 2018, 2pm (combined with Faculty Conference)
Kinard 018

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:15pm. Dr. Harris noted that we have a quorum; reminded us that we have business to vote on.

II. Welcoming Remarks

Lisa Harris
Graduate Faculty Assembly Chair

III. Approval of minutes of the Graduate Faculty Assembly from April 13, 2018.
Please find the minutes at the bottom of the agenda.

Minutes from the April 13, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

Dr. Dimaculangan asked about graduate student enrollment and was told that it would be addressed later in the meeting.

IV. Report from the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Debra Boyd

Dr. Boyd presented her report during Faculty Conference.

V. Report from the Graduate Council

Tracy Griggs
Graduate Council Chair

- Graduate Council 2018 - 2019 Priorities
 - Looking at ways to streamline the petition process to make it easier. Hoping for some support from IT to make the running around campus more efficient.
 - Graduate level requirements for 500 courses: we are discussing ways to increase rigor for 500 level courses for the graduates (as opposed to the undergraduates taking the same courses). Waiting on UGAP right now. We need to make sure that we're increasing the rigor in the syllabi and also in our assessments. This is necessary for SAC accreditation.
 - Clarification of graduate faculty roles, responsibilities and benefits. We've noticed that many people leave the room after Faculty Conference. We need to highlight what it means to be a graduate faculty member and what the benefits are.
 - Graduate Faculty Status Awarded to Melissa Reeves. There are four applications pending (they came in after the last meeting). They will be reviewed at the next meeting.
 - Graduate Petitions were reviewed.
 - No curriculum action requiring a GFA vote.
 - Dr. Koszewski from human nutrition, asked why we have to wait a year to allow someone to be a graduate faculty member. She stated that we get new faculty and they need to be working with graduate students, they need to be on graduate committees. This rule seems to put them behind.

- Dr. DeRochi responded that Faculty passed this rule in 2009. But he assured everyone that they could revisit this.
 - Dr. Boyd said that it needs to come to graduate council. You do not need to be a member of graduate faculty assembly to teach graduates or work on graduate committees. You do, however, have to meet SACSCOC requirements to teach graduate classes.
 - Dr. DeRochi said that other institutions have different definitions. Some say that you are a member if you're teaching graduate classes. Ours looks at your contributions to the graduate program.
 - Dr. Ralston from the English Department said that it's also a way to protect that new faculty member from serving on extra committees as you become a little more familiar with Winthrop and the way it works during that year. You should be here a year before you begin to work on graduate issues.
 - Dr. Koster mentioned that it used to be two years before you could get graduate status
 - Dr. Oakes reminded everyone that the bylaws state that credit from other institutions can count toward the one year necessary for inclusion on the graduate faculty assembly.
 - Dr. Griggs said she'd take this conversation to Graduate Council.
- Provisional Admission Policy Revisions - requires vote
 - A change to the provisional admission requirements has been recommended. Before a student could not receive a grade of B- and be admitted. Students may now earn as low as a B- provided their overall GPA is 3.0 or higher in the first 12 graduate credit hours.
 - Dr. DeRochi explained that we've had students who had a 3.66 GPA in the first semester with two A's and one B-. This allows for the B- provided they have the 3.0. It would take effect for Spring admissions.
 - Was accepted (everyone voted aye).
- Curriculum Action requiring vote – None
- Review of curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that do not require a GFA vote and are being considered by CUC. – See end of the agenda
- Review of curriculum items approved at the college level that do not require a GFA vote – See end of the agenda
- Review of curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that do not require a GFA vote. – See end of the agenda
- Graduate Faculty Status

- a. Degree seeking enrollment at the graduate level up to 714 (from 701). Total enrollment is the big number, but if you think of graduate students they're on two-year cycles (some programs are three, most are two). In 2017, we were down each of those terms significantly- 30, 20, and 40. We were up Spring 18 and Summer 18; up significantly in Fall 18.
- b. We're making sure to measure not just first graduate degrees. We measure those who are getting second graduate degrees also. We are up 45 students. This is due to the launch of online graduate programs. Projection was 70-90 new students from the three new online, Wiley programs. It was supposed to include two sets of Social Work options; when an instructor left. We recommended delay of advanced standing track of online Social Work. Wiley agreed. We were up 75. If it were land-based only- we would have been down again. So, we need to figure out how we target better recruitment. Work to be done. Of the 75 online graduate students, 24 are from the three surrounding counties that could have driven to campus. However, clearly, they want the online program (it's what they chose and they're paying more money for it).
- c. We are having a meeting of graduate program directors on Tuesday. An exciting time to be in graduate education because there's more attention on graduate education than ever before.
- d. Graduate education week is Feb 18 through the 21st. We are adding Winthrop's first ever three-minute thesis competition.

Dr. Yang discussed Winthrop's inaugural three-minute thesis competition. They're going to send out a letter to faculty next week. They have to describe their research and the impact of their research. Submissions for abstracts will be due in January (thinking around 250 words). If they have tons of submissions, they'll have heats. The judges for the three-minute comp will be people from the community. Those who are interested in the relevance of the work as community stakeholders. There will be cash prizes.

Dr. DeRochi then discussed how this came from Queensland University. It's not about who did the best research. It's about students being able to articulate the value of their work in three minutes (the elevator speech). There will rubrics that are already built and vetted. Could be the thesis or the prospectus for their thesis.

Dr. Dimaculangan asked if someone graduated in summer or fall could they still apply? Answer: no, it's for current students.

Dr. DeRochi encouraged us all to attend as well as our graduate students. Monday night at 6:00 in the hopes that 5:00 classes could go a little early and 6:30 classes could start a little late in Dina's place.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

VIII. New Business

There was no new business.

IX. Announcements

Next meeting on Nov 30, 2018

The World of Food is being co-sponsored with the graduate consortium. Please encourage your graduate students to submit. You and your students can apply to this conference. It will

be at the tail end of graduate week. November the 2nd is the deadline for abstracts. They'll be notified by Dec 30 if they've been accepted.

- X. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Curriculum Items that do not require a GFA vote

Curriculum items approved by Graduate Council that have been sent to CUC for consideration.

- MUST 591 – modify, Add prerequisite

Curriculum items approved at the college level.

- MGMT684 – modify, change pre-requisites

Curriculum items approved at GC.

- MBA program to drop a 1.5 hour course MGMT 681 (*Business and Society*) and change QMTH 680 (*Business Statistics*) from 1.5 hours to 3 hours

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsay Yearta
GFA Secretary