

Graduate Council
December 9, 2014
208 Thurmond
Minutes

Members present: Katherine Kinsey (COE), Melissa Carsten (CBA-Chair), Brent Cagle (CAS-GFA rep), Mike Lipscomb (CAS), Ronnie Faulkner (Dacus), Kristen Wunderlich (CVPA), Marshall Jones (COE), and Jennifer Jordan (COE).

Guests present: Gina Jones, Robbie Hampton, Malayka Klimchak, Andrew Vorder-Bruegge, Greg Oakes, Jack DeRochi, Tim Drueke, and April Hershey.

- I. Announcements: Summer & Fall Graduates celebration is Tuesday, December 16 at 6 pm in Richardson Ballroom A in DiGs

- II. Minutes from October 31, 2014 meeting approved and final copy posted on website. <http://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/graduateschool/applicationforms/Administrative/GradCouncilminutesOct312014.pdf>

- III. Report from the Graduate Dean: At the Council of Graduate Schools conference, Winthrop received high marks for our student financial literacy grant activity. The "My Money Matters" website was used as an example for conference participants to see how the different integrated tools were built and made student friendly. The 2.0 version will link to the website "Grad Sense" that was built by CGS. A "Three Minute Thesis" plan/program is in the works to possibly roll out in the spring. It will apply to any significant research, not just theses. The event will be a juried exhibition with community members and awards. The Southern Council of Graduate Schools (SCGS) meets in March and hosts a regional event built around the Three Minute Thesis plan. Winthrop would submit our winner and if selected part of their award would be travel costs paid for the student to attend the conference.

- IV. Old business
 - a. Updates from Sub Committees

Sub committees: any proposed changes to bylaws need to be on the agenda for the next GFA meeting.

 - i. Electronic Voting and review of GFA bylaws: GFA approved the change in bylaws to allow for electronic voting and the bylaws document has been reviewed by the subcommittee and several things have been highlighted that need clarification, clean-up, etc. The main question is where to add the new language? Tim Drueke is likely the overseer of the bylaws/governance for GFA. Melissa will follow up with Tim and the subcommittee to get proposed changes approved before next GFA meeting so that it can be on the agenda to be considered for a vote at the following meeting. One of the questions that was discussed asked if the electronic voting for curriculum also applies to graduate council approval? If so, this would help the programs that are trying to get innovative changes through the grad system more quickly. With the smaller group, email is used and is ok

but does it need to be added to the GFA bylaws in Article 6? Petitions are voted on electronically and have been for the past two + years.

- ii. Curriculum action process: The subcommittee has not yet met. Ongoing proposal to move curriculum action more quickly through the system.
- iii. Thesis Advisor Recognition and Thesis guidelines: Subcommittee met with DeAnn Brame from Dacus who is in charge of Digital Commons. A website is being set-up for Winthrop University to host electronic thesis. The process is still being formalized but this will only change the way that thesis are submitted for the binding and archives. Approval and defense will be the same as before. February 27 would be a good time to talk about electronic thesis at GFA and to let folks know what is going on. It might be good to also make a brief presentation to faculty conference.

V. No new business

VI. Curriculum action:

A. Course Actions:

- i. BIOL 528: new course - Approved
- ii. BIOL 530: change title of course to keep current with changes – Approved
- iii. FACS 500, 501, 502, 573: change in GPA requirement to 2.5 to update catalog and applies only to undergraduate GPA – Approved
- iv. HIST 549: new course on the Third Reich; taught as special topics but want to add as permanent – Approved
- v. INGS 520: change from INAS designator to fit with minor and allow repeats but no more than three - Approved
- vi. SOCL 516: want to change so that course cannot be taken on S/U basis as this is a core skill course – Approved

B. Program actions: MLA program has proposed changes to allow students to take electives in other designators and still satisfy requirements – Approved

VII. Graduate Faculty Application: Carrie Sanders, Ph.D. – Counseling, Leadership, and Educational Studies - Approved

VIII. Petitions

- a. Caleigh Pigg
- b. Karla Chambers McGinnas

IX. Adjournment

Future Meeting Dates:

Friday, February 6th at 2pm

Friday, April 3rd at 2pm

Tuesday, April 28th at 11am

** All meetings held in Thurmond 208

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