

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2019

Members Present: Allan, Craig – Geography and Earth Sciences
Browne, Aidan – Engineering Technology & Construction Management
Canevello, Amy – Psychological Sciences (alternate for James Tabor RELS)
Gamez, Jose – School of Arch (alternate for Nadia Anderson, SofArch)
Godev, Concepción – Languages & Culture Studies and Graduate Council Chair
Hall-Hertel, Katherine – Graduate School (attending for Dean Tom Reynolds)
Lachance, Joan – Middle, Secondary & K-12 (alternate for Lyndon Abrams, CLSG)
Lee, Othelia – School of Social Work (alternate for Allison Burfield, SofNursing)
Lipford, Heather – Software & Information Systems
Mauer, David – Finance
Richardson, Christine – Biological Science (alternate for Elizabeth Miller, ENGL)
Scarborough, Beth – Atkins Library
Suptela, Alex – PhD Candidate, BIOL and Graduate Student Representative (GPSG)

Also Attending: Goodliffe, Julie – Graduate School
Krause, Sandy – Graduate School
Morse, Janet – Graduate School
Perez – Manuel Quinones
Skerlak, Christi – Graduate School
Watson, Johnna – Graduate School
Wyse, Matt – Faculty Governance, Office of the Provost

I. Report of the Chair – Concepcion Godev

Approval of the September 3, 2019, Meeting Minutes

Allan made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted with a second from Lachance. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chair Godev communicated that Dean Reynolds informed her about a possible hearing in which three members of the Graduate Council would be involved. She estimates about three hours of work in total would be spent and she will be seeking volunteers. More details to follow.

Chair Godev recapped the Student Funding Committee composition.

Manuel Quinones Perez (Professor in SIS) – Chair
Julie Goodliffe – Director of Funding & Fellowships (Graduate School) – Vice-chair
Heather Lipford – Professor in SIS, member
Liz Miller – Professor in English, member
Alex Suptela – GPSG Rep on the Graduate Council and PhD Candidate, BIOL, member
Master's student representative - vacant

II. Report of the Graduate School Dean – Katherine Hall-Hertel for Dean Reynolds

Hall-Hertel reminded the Council of the following faculty nomination deadlines:

Harshini de Silva – November 1, 2019

First Citizens – November 8, 2019

Reynolds Leadership Award – December 13, 2019

III. Course and Curriculum Proposals

A. Business Administration with a Major in Finance – (Graduate Degree Name Revision)

Originator: Jennifer Troyer, College of Business Interim Dean
Graduate Council Assignments – All

Gamez made a motion to approve as submitted with a second from Allan. Eleven members voted in favor with one abstention.

IV. Discussion Topics

A. Part 1: Discussion of Documents Presented by Vice Chancellor Rick Tankersley at the 9/3/2019 meeting. – Manuel Quinones Perez, Funding Committee Chair

Perez explained that the model currently being used is quite complex. The funding being received by the Graduate School to support graduate students has not changed since the first infusion of funds based on 282 students in the early 2000's. Julie Goodliffe presented a PowerPoint presentation to explain some of the complexities of the current funding process.

The Funding Committee will begin discussions with programs on how to develop a scalable and sustainable model going forward.

Some of the goals to begin this process which were noted in the Funding report are:

- Graduate Assistants should be given position number. GA salaries can be more accurately tracked when using a position number.
- Create workload policies/stipend levels for TA's, RA's and AA's
- Create definitions of RA and TA's
- Work with programs to bring the level of support within the guidelines specified in the Funding Report.

Perez plans to schedule meetings with Graduate Program Directors and other key stakeholders to have open dialogue sessions to explore ways to implement the new

guidelines. We need to constantly explore ways to secure grants and contracts where possible and adjust institutional funds to help support programs not sustainable by grants.

Godev invited Perez and Goodliffe to continue to report their findings at future Graduate Council meetings.

B. Defining Professional Doctoral Degrees vs. Research Doctoral Degrees - Katherine Hall-Hertel (Graduate School)

Hall-Hertel asked the Council to consider how a professional degree is defined compared to a research doctoral degree. Currently all doctoral degrees at UNC Charlotte have the same milestone requirements. But some programs, like the DBA and DNP follow best practices for professional rather than research degrees. Programs seem to use both terms interchangeably, depending on the need. The System office uses metrics based on the degree classification, so the distinction between research and professional degrees has possible consequences for programs. The classifications can also affect funding. Hall-Hertel asked the Council to discuss this with their departments. Hall-Hertel will bring a draft policy to the Council for consideration.

Lipford did not have a concern with how programs wish to be perceived but Mauer stated that students need transparency.

C. Application Deadline Discussion – Johnna Watson (Graduate School)

To allow sufficient time for graduate admissions processes, such as submission and receipt of National Student Clearinghouse data, criminal background reporting, and three days to create student accounts in Banner, etc., Watson proposed to change the deadlines to submit applications as follows:

Current fall deadline: August 15
Proposed fall deadline: August 1
Current spring deadline: January 1
Proposed spring deadline: December 1

There is no proposed change to the summer deadline of June 15.

V. Other Business

No other business was communicated.

Mauer made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Allan. The meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Annette Parks".

Annette Parks
Graduate Council Secretary