GRADUATE COUNCIL AGENDA
December 14, 2017
1:00 PM

GRINTER HALL ROOM 110

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Henry Frierson (Chair), Dr. Karen Bjorndal, Dr. David Bloom, Dr. Kendal Broad-Wright, Dr. Warren Dixon, Dr. Christopher Hass, Dr. Bruce MacFadden, Dr. James McLeskey, Dr. Sihong Song, and Dr. Jane Southworth

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Tom Frazer, Dr. Raymond Issa, Dr. Mahendrarajah Nimalendran, Ms. Madeline Sciullo (GSC rep), and Mr. Seth Assan (GSC alternate)

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Alyson Adams (College of Education), Ms. Suzanne Burns (Office of Admissions), Dr. Brian Marchman (Distance and Continuing Education), Ms. Ana Portocarrero (Warrington College of Business), Ms. Maria Rogal (College of the Arts), Dr. Robert Thieke (Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering), Ms. Lynn Tomaszewski (College of the Arts), and Dr. Kristin Weitzel (College of Pharmacy)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Paul Duncan, Ms. Gann Enholm, Mr. Matt Mitterko, Dr. Judy Traveis, Ms. Patricia Van Wert, and Ms. Stacy Wallace

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Minutes from the November 16, 2017 Graduate Council meeting.** A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATES:

2. **Proposal from the College of Pharmacy for a new graduate certificate in Precision Medicine (#11839).** Dr. Kristin Weitzel was present for discussion.
   GC Member: It appears none of the courses for the certificate have been submitted.
   Dr. Weitzel: We plan to submit the courses within the next few weeks. We submitted a certificate proposal last year through the College of Pharmacy and the feedback was that it needed to be multidisciplinary, so we spent a great deal of time pulling groups together. The courses have not been approved, but they are adaptations of existing courses. For example, the Clinical Pharmacogenetics course listed in the proposal is an existing course and would be adapted to make it appropriate for this program. We included the letter of support with the proposal to show that the faculty is in place.
   Dr. Duncan: Staff struggle with this issue. We don't want programs to put enormous effort into developing courses for a graduate certificate that may not be approved. We encourage parallel development of the courses and the graduate certificate.
   Dr. Weitzel: From a timeline perspective, one of the foundational courses would be taught by a faculty member in our college, one by a faculty member in the College of Public Health and Health Professions, and one by a faculty member in the College of Medicine. Our goal is to offer the courses in fall, so we could likely be ready with the courses to move forward to the Graduate Curriculum Committee by March.
   GC Member: The requirements for admission indicate students must have clinical degrees.
   Dr. Weitzel: Non-clinicians are still potentially eligible for the certificate. The certificate is not clinician-specific, and the goal of the program is to build the skills and knowledge necessary to approach concepts rather than being specific on what a student would do in specific scenarios. Rewording of admission requirements will be considered.
   GC Member: The grading scheme seems unusual. At the graduate level, is that scheme acceptable?
   Dr. Weitzel: The grading scheme is similar in structure to other certificates we offer.

Dr. Duncan: Programs are allowed to have wide-ranging schemes for graduate certificates. The issue is that if courses are graded S/U they are not transferrable into a graduate degree program. Many of our graduate certificate programs are intended to provide students with front end work for graduate degree programs. They would need to be letter-graded to be eligible for transfer.
GC Member: The SLOs on the proposal need revision.
A motion to table was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

3. **Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for a new graduate certificate in Forest Health and Resilience (#11784).** Dr. Paul Duncan was present for discussion. Dr. Duncan explained this graduate certificate is based on existing courses. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

4. **Proposal from the College of Education for a new graduate certificate in Teacher Leadership (#11675).** Dr. Alyson Adams was present for discussion.
GC Member: The proposal is straightforward, but please explain what teacher leadership is. The goals for the certificate are included in the proposal, but is "teacher leadership" a skill-specific term?
Dr. Adams: People define it differently, but we define it as leadership within and outside of the classroom walls i.e. a teacher who assumes roles other to support the growth of other teachers.
Dr. Duncan: This is leadership as distinguished from educational leadership and those who are training to become principals.
GC Member: There are three set courses and the fourth is an elective. It's hard for staff who manage the graduate certificate to go in and check the electives.
Dr. Adams: We submit a program of study to staff. The problem with selecting a fourth course is students want a subject specific to what they're teaching. Everyone who is a teacher has basic certification requirements, but this is advanced at the master's level.
GC Member: There is a single leadership portfolio in SLOs.
A motion to approve was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

DEGREE PROGRAM:

5. **Proposal from the College of the Arts for the creation of a Master of Fine Arts with a major in design and visual communications (#11725).** Ms. Maria Rogal and Ms. Lynn Tomaszewski were present for discussion.
GC Member: For those unfamiliar with the field, what is the difference between graphic design and design and visual communications?
Ms. Rogal: We currently offer an MFA in art with a focus in graphic design that has shared curriculum with several other art areas. We want to create this separate degree program. The design and visual communications component is much broader and reflects more contemporary graphic design and communications.
GC Member: The current program is sixty credits?
Ms. Rogal: Yes, and they're terminal degrees. This program will start in fall 2019, but we'll be transitioning our current students sooner.
A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

DUAL DEGREE:

6. **Proposal for a dual degree between the University of Florida and Escola de Engenharia de Sao Carlos da Universidade de Sao Paulo.** Dr. Robert Thieke was present for discussion.
GC Member: Can you provide any background on what has happened with the Graduate School over four years on this?
Dr. Thieke: The intent was to make this a general joint program when it was initiated. Now the dual degree proposal is individualized for this student.
Dr. Frierson: Common joint PhD programs became problematic with new accrediting regulations. The dual degree proposals tend to be more favorable.
Dr. Duncan: The wider university policy context is there has been much discussion but no fundamental change. The dual degree proposals must be voted on by Graduate Council and there must be overarching MOU between the two participating universities.

GC Member: It seems that the student will graduate in May 2018.
Mr. Mitterko: Conversations started nine months ago, so there has been an exchange to identify what needed to be completed in the meantime. The program of study attached to the proposal has been in place, but moving forward took longer than anticipated. We have the overarching MOU. And Sao Paulo has indicated interest in more of these proposals in the future.
Dr. Frierson: We will review each of those individually.
GC Member: The student is awarded two PhDs for the same amount of work. From a philosophical perspective, there needs to be justification. Why could the student not be a visiting scholar within the lab?
Dr. Duncan: An abstract is provided in both languages, but the dissertation will be in the language of the individual institution. The justification is there will be a lab at the collaborating institution that's not available here, and that lab adds to the science in a way that's impossible to accomplish here. It must be sufficient to the faculty involved that it really is a new set of work that justifies the consideration of awarding the two degrees. These dual degrees are structured so that if either institution decides they suddenly won't participate the student will be eligible for either degree autonomously. The University of Florida PhD must stand on its own by our rules.
GC Member: As UF professors, it's strange for us to evaluate if the student can earn a degree at a non-UF institution.
Dr. Duncan: We're being asked to evaluate the structure for that opportunity.
GC Member: My previous experience on this committee is there is one to three more years of work projected out. It may be better for faculty and students if there is more uniformity.
GC Member: Wouldn't the student by default already earn two PhDs?
Dr. Duncan: Given the transfer of credits, one could make that argument. By approving this proposal, Graduate Council is signaling to Graduate School staff that the transfer of credit piece of the puzzle is acceptable. We would follow our standard process for evaluating transfer of credit. The master's credits have already been transferred.
GC Member: We are also evaluating that we accept a dissertation that is submitted to two separate universities.
Dr. Duncan: It sounds as if moving forward there is some information Graduate Council would want to know for these types of proposals. Matt could add this information into the content of the proposal or could put that information into a cover note. These are ad hoc and there will be more of them.
GC Member: These should not be seen so late. They should be seen at least a few years before the student is set to graduate.
Dr. Duncan: The conversation often comes up between two faculty members from the collaborating institutions before they have a student in mind. We could enforce that as a part of the process, a plan of study is created at the front end rather than something tacked on halfway or toward the end.
GC Member: There doesn't seem to be a compelling argument included for why we should allow this.
Dr. Duncan: Some of this has been part of UF's globalization and internationalization efforts. At an institutional level, UF is seeking various devices to lay claim to a larger international collaborative place in the world. This is just one of those devices, and there has been some signal of interest at the university level. It sounds like we need to include an overarching statement of principle and a rather rigid set of rules that the planning has be from the front end. Staff will work on both of those.
Dr. Frierson: We'll work on the draft and will allow Graduate Council to review.
GC Member: Who pays the student's tuition?
Mr. Mitterko: Many institutional partners have either a nominal or waived registration fee, so if there is a cost obligation it's on the tuition side. A stipend is provided as well.
GC Member: We need more complete information on the timeline and a justification for this proposal.
A motion to table until a representative can address Graduate Council's concerns was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

MAJORS:

The following two proposals were approved together.

7. **Proposal from the Warrington College of Business for a modification to the curriculum of the Master of International Business (#11626).** Ms. Ana Portocarrero was present for discussion. Dr. Duncan explained these two modifications emerge because of the Economics Department moving from the College of Business

to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Economy courses were part of curricula, but now with the Economics Department being part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Business want to continue offering these two majors the way they currently are but with the economics courses from the other college. These are the same courses contributing to the same degrees. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

8. Proposal from the Warrington College of Business for a modification to the curriculum of the Master of Science with a major in management (#11627). Ms. Ana Portocarrero was present for discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS:

9. Graduate Programs – Online and Self-Funded (No new items).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.