

GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2017

10:00 a.m.

GRINTER HALL ROOM 110

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Henry Frierson (Chair); Dr. Karen Bjorndal; Dr. David Bloom; Dr. Tom Frazer; Dr. Christopher Hass; Dr. Raymond Issa; Dr. Bruce MacFadden; Dr. James Mcleskey; Ms. Madeline Sciuлло (GSC rep); Mr. Seth Assan (GSC alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Kendal Broad-Wright; Dr. Warren Dixon; Dr. Mahendrarajah Nimalendran; Dr. Sihong Song; Dr. Jane Southworth

GUESTS PRESENT: Ms. Suzanne Burns (Office of Admissions); Dr. James Estrada (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences); Ms. Liz Manini (College of Medicine); Ms. Theresa Martin (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences); Dr. Francois Modave (College of Medicine); Dr. Keith Muller (College of Medicine); Mr. Steve Pritz (Office of the University Registrar); Dr. Marko Suvajdzic (College of the Arts);

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Paul Duncan; Ms. Gann Enholm; Ms. Emilia Hodge; Ms. Caroline Lentz; Mr. Matt Mitterko; Ms. Jodi Slapcinsky; Dr. Judy Traveis; Ms. Patricia Van Wert; Ms. Stacy Wallace

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Minutes from the May 18, 2017, Graduate Council meeting.** A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATES:

2. **Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for a modification to the graduate certificate in Tropical Agriculture (#11758).** Dr. James Estrada and Ms. Theresa Martin were present for discussion. Ms. Martin explained this certificate was previously housed under a non-academic unit and became inactive. Agronomy has now agreed to house the graduate certificate. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
3. **Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to close the graduate certificate in Food Safety (#11726).** Dr. Paul Duncan was present for discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

DEGREE PROGRAMS:

4. **Proposal from the College of Nursing to close the Master of Science in Nursing degree program (#11707).** Dr. Paul Duncan was present for discussion. Dr. Duncan explained the College of Nursing has had the Doctor of Nursing Practice program as well as the Master of Science in Nursing program but there was ambiguity on an appropriate exit strategy for students wishing to earn the Master's and not continue on in the doctoral program. The College of Nursing is no longer admitting students to the Master of Science in Nursing program, and does not view that degree as an appropriate alternative for students who choose not to complete the DNP program. From an administrative standpoint, this change will render the transfer of professional degree credits to a graduate degree unnecessary. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
5. **Proposal from the College of the Arts to modify the credit hours for the Master of Arts in Digital Arts and Sciences (#11825).** Dr. Marko Suvajdzic was present for discussion. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE:

6. **Proposal from the College of Medicine to change the name of the Department of Health Outcomes and Policy to the Department of Health Outcomes and Biomedical Informatics (#11595).** Ms. Liz Manini, Dr. Francois Modave and Dr. Keith Muller were present for discussion.

GC Member: This change will remove the word policy. Is that the intent?

Dr. Muller: Yes. Research and policy is one area of what we do. Our research can affect policy but the gravitas for the department has shifted to informatics, and many policy initiatives are now based on big data. We have a fifteen-year history in big data.

GC Member: With this name change, have you considered any mechanisms such as Google Analytics to see if you would lose students who do keyword searches through Google?

Ms. Manini: Health outcomes is our major focus. We may inform policy, but a biomedical informatics search would be more appropriate for our students and less confusing.

GC Member: Have you had any pushback with this proposed change?

Dr. Muller: There has been consistent confusion because of the word policy. Academicians create knowledge that can inform policy, but we don't actually create policy.

A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS:

7. Graduate Programs – Online and/or Self-Funded (No new items).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.