

GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2015
1:00 P.M.

264 GRINTER HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Paul Duncan (chair); Dr. Tom Frazer; Dr. Christopher Hass; Dr. Joanna Peris (present via telephone); Dr. Dietmar Siemann; Dr. Pamela Soltis; Mr. Nathan Blinn (GSC)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Henry Frierson (chair); Dr. Nancy Dana; Dr. Ann Horgas; Dr. Mahendrarajah Nimalendran; Dr. Cindy Prins; Dr. Connie Shehan; Dr. Jane Southworth

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Grenville Barnes (School of Forest Resources and Conservation); Mr. Tim Brophy (Office of the Provost); Ms. Alana Christou (College of Medicine); Dr. Larry Forthun (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences); Dr. William Hogan (College of Medicine); Ms. Diana Hull (Office of the University Registrar); Dr. Tracy Irani (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences); Dr. Mildred Maldonado-Molina (College of Medicine); Dr. Ranga Narayanan (College of Engineering); Ms. Rhiannon Pollard (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences); Dr. Betsy Shenkman (College of Medicine); Ms. Jill Sonke (The College of the Arts); Mr. Kevin Ward (College of Engineering graduate student); Mr. Mark Zakshevsky (Distance and Continuing Education).

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Gann Enholm; Ms. Caroline Lentz (recording); Mr. Matt Mitterko; Dr. Rhonda Moraca; Mr. Robert Parker; Ms. Stacy Wallace

The meeting was called to order at 1:09 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Minutes from the November 19, 2015, Graduate Council meeting (Enclosure 1). A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATE:

2. Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for a new graduate certificate in Mapping with Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) (#10264). Dr. Grenville Barnes was present for discussion. Dr. Barnes explained that there is something of a scare factor with drones, particularly in light of the recent federal regulations, but drones are useful and have many applications. This graduate certificate would not be so focused on drone building or aerodynamics but rather on tools of UAS and mapping with them. This proposal is the result of recommendations by both geomatics students and an advisory board that evolved from the growing demand at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The graduate certificate program is comprised of three courses; the program will not involve actual drones due to cost, but rather it will utilize flight

planning and simulators. Motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

CONCENTRATION:

3. Proposal from the College of Medicine to add to their M.S. in Medical Sciences degree a new concentration in Biomedical Informatics (#10494). Ms. Alana Christou, Dr. William Hogan, and Dr. Mildred Maldonado-Molina of the College of Medicine were present for discussion. Dr. Hogan explained that this Biomedical Informatics concentration would essentially be the science of information within a healthcare context. He indicated that their certificate has had great response and currently has 8 students enrolled. As a result, they have developed new courses and a curriculum at the Master's level. This new Biomedical Informatics concentration will help students work in both academic and applied settings, and people are already interested in this program. Dr. Hogan explained that this concentration would be different from other Master's programs (e.g. in Biomedical Informatics) because the other program focuses more on molecules and cells, while this new concentration would focus on organs, individuals and populations and would be more of a translational science. These programs would be complementary; however, the differences are distinct enough to warrant this new concentration.

GC Member (via email read by Dr. Moraca): Did the submitters of this proposal mean to use PHC 6405, because that is an upper level course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences with a prerequisite of PHC 6410? Or did they mean to use PHC 6410?

Dr. Hogan: The proposed course should be PHC 6410 instead.

Pending this update to the submitted approval system forms, the motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

MODIFICATION OF THE CURRICULUM:

4. Proposal from the College of the Arts for a modification of the curriculum of the major in Arts in Medicine to change one core course and add seven elective options (#10408). Ms. Jill Sonke was present for discussion. Ms. Sonke explained that the Arts in Medicine program is in its 2nd year, and the faculty has grown and enrollment targets have been met in that time. This proposal seeks to replace the Public Health course they have been using with their own research and evaluation course.

GC Member: How different will this new evaluation course be? What is the difference?

Ms. Sonke: The evaluation course from Public Health that we have been using is really geared toward Public Health professionals. Our students are more multi-disciplinary practitioners who need a specific skill set in order to partner with Public Health professionals but who are not Public Health professionals themselves.

GC Member (via email read by Dr. Moraca): Do you have endorsement from the Health Services Research, Management, and Policy department to use PHC 6104?

Ms. Sonke: I have worked with Dr. Amy Blue and Dr. Sarah McKune of the College of Public Health and Health Professions on this.

GC Member: Do you realize that PHC 6104 is an upper level course with prerequisites?

Ms. Sonke: Yes, we know.

Motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously pending the academic unit providing documents regarding consultation with the Health Services Research, Management, and Policy department to use PHC 6104 as an elective.

NEW DEGREE:

5. Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for a new Ph.D. degree in Youth Development and Family Sciences (#10369). Dr. Tracy Irani and Dr. Larry Forthun were present for discussion. Dr. Duncan explained that this proposal was a discussion item at October, 2015 Graduate Council meeting and is now ready to be voted on. Dr. Irani reiterated that they have been working on this proposal for a long time and have taken the last year to refine and refocus the proposal in order to get it ready to move forward. Dr. Duncan explained that this proposal was subjected to extra steps and scrutiny and has been vetted thoroughly by the Provost's Office and staff at the Graduate School. It will also be thoroughly examined at the Board of Governors.

Motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

DUAL DEGREE:

6. Proposal for a dual degree between Université Lille 1 and the University of Florida for Mr. Kevin Lawrence Ward. Dr. Ranga Narayanan and Mr. Kevin Ward were present for discussion.

Dr. Duncan: We do not want to have an abstract discussion today regarding this dual degree proposal. All dual degrees are unusual and a part of a larger MOU. For Mr. Ward, the PhD coursework will be completed at UF and the dissertation hours will be done in Lille.

GC Member: What exactly will the student be doing in France?

Mr. Ward: The PhD research components will take place in Lille, because they have the apparatus that I need to complete the experimental component of my research.

Dr. Narayanan: The sequel to Mr. Ward's research will fly on the space station. He will be conducting ground-based experiments and parabolic flights, which are low gravity flights.

GC Member: If all of the credits are done and if Lille somehow dropped out of this dual degree, would the student still receive the PhD?

Dr. Narayanan: Yes.

GC Member: So, would the student receive credit here for his time in France?

Dr. Narayanan: UF does not want tuition money to cross borders. There is no course credit system in France.

Dr. Duncan: There is a registration agreement set to explain that no money will go between the schools.

Dr. Narayanan: Because Mr. Ward will be working in a French laboratory there is a liability issue. It will cost approximately \$250 Euros a year.

GC Member: It would be helpful to spell out in detail in the proposal what the student will be doing in France.

Dr. Narayanan: We can add a clearer description as an attachment.

Dr. Brophy: That would be helpful for accreditation at the Registrar's office as well. Motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, pending the addition of the description of the work Mr. Ward will be doing while participating in the dual degree.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

7. UF PhD Programs Policies and Recommendations Draft. Dr. Duncan explained that this is a draft document, which has evolved from the Dunn Report. Dr. Dunn, Dr. Frierson and Dr. Duncan have worked on this after identifying "best practices" for PhDs by a substantial majority. Because of the number of PhD programs, there has been a level of unevenness and this draft will establish a rudimentary baseline. Dr. Duncan asked that if any Graduate Council members have any suggestions or edits that they use the track changes function or markup in the document and send to him by December 15, 2015. He will compile the comments and send suggestions to the Provost's Office.

GC Member: How will we evaluate programs?

Dr. Duncan: The Graduate School will devise a way to do some monitoring and documentation, but the programs will have the primary obligation to monitor their own achievements and maintain documentation.

GC Member: There is a financial cost to recruitment. Will the central office be putting money into graduate recruitment?

Dr. Duncan: No. If programs would be expected to have a plan. If their plan required additional resources, they would have allocate existing money or seek additional funding.

GC Member: Students use Google to research programs and our program websites are subpar. How will students find what they're interested in unless they know specifically what they are looking for?

Dr. Duncan: The Graduate School recently launched a new website and we hope that will help. And, often a student will join a graduate program because they want to work with a specific faculty member.

GC Member: I think now there is a certain "shotgun approach" to how students select programs.

Dr. Duncan: PhD programs used to accept students who were all over the map. Now it seems that a much higher percentage of students apply in a field in which they have completed prior work.

In the absence of further discussion, Dr. Duncan reiterated his request that Council members forward feedback by December 15, 2015.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS:

8. Regarding the College of Design, Construction and Planning online Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree (MURP), the Graduate School staff review confirms consistency of the distance learning program and the campus program (Enclosure 8). GC Member noted that the side-by-side comparison between the on-ground and online programs was very helpful.
9. Correction of the CIP code for the Arts in Public Health certificate, from 50.0701 to 50.0799.
10. Graduate Programs – Distance or Self-Funded
 - a. Master of Arts in Mass Communication (MAMC) with a specialization in Public Relations and Communication Management
 - b. Graduate Certificate in Communicating Value and Web Conversion

The meeting was adjourned at 1: 58 p.m.