

GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 2016

1:00 P.M.

CRISER HALL ROOM 302A

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Henry Frierson (chair); Dr. Tom Frazer; Dr. Christopher Hass; Dr. Ann Horgas; Dr. Joanna Peris; Dr. Connie Shehan; Dr. Dietmar Siemann; Dr. Jane Southworth; Mr. Nathan Blinn (GSC rep)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Nancy Fichtman Dana; Dr. Cindy Prins; Dr. John Shea; Dr. Pamela Soltis; Ms. Mirna Amaya (GSC Alternate)

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Timothy Brophy (Office of the Provost); Ms. Suzie Burns (Office of Admissions); Mr. John Jordi (Distance and Continuing Education); Dr. David Miller (College of Education); Mr. Steve Pritz (Office of the University Registrar); Ms. Amanda Redinger (College of Engineering); Dr. Anne Seraphine (College of Education)

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Gann Enholm; Dr. Emilia Hodge; Ms. Caroline Lentz; Mr. Matt Mitterko; Dr. Rhonda Moraca; Ms. Stacy Wallace

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Minutes from the March 17, 2016 Graduate Council meeting.**
A motion to approve was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATE:

2. **Proposal from the College of Engineering to sunset the graduate certificate in Ecological Engineering (#10673).** It was confirmed that no students are enrolled in the graduate certificate.
A motion to approve was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

MAJOR:

3. **Proposal from the College of Education for a new major in Program Evaluation in Educational Environments for the Master of Arts in Education (M.A.E.) degree (#10657).** Dr. Anne Seraphine and Dr. David Miller were present for discussion. Dr. Frierson explained that this major will prepare students for program evaluation as opposed to simply teaching them research skills. Dr. Miller explained that this program will encourage students to get their PhDs. The major is made up of online courses, four of which are ready and hopefully more courses will be added. As

of now, there are no plans to offer this as an on-campus program. The proposal will likely not be through all of the necessary approvals until spring 2017 semester; therefore, the start date requested is spring 2017.

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

MODIFICATION OF THE CURRICULUM OF A MAJOR:

- 4. Proposal from the College of Engineering for a modification to the curriculum of the major in Biomedical Engineering (#10841).** Ms. Amanda Redinger was present for discussion.

GC Member: Are these courses being replaced with identical courses?

Ms. Redinger: No, we have a full curriculum now, so these are not needed.

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

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY:

- 5. Final Examination Policy.** Dr. Frierson explained that the intent of this document was to streamline the language for consistency and avoid confusion regarding final examinations.

GC Member: I assume that online master's students will have to travel to Gainesville for the written exam?

Dr. Frierson: Based on this, they wouldn't have to because the program has the choice. Exams could be taken on any site with a monitor.

GC Member: It seems like there will be even more diversity after this policy.

GC Member: Our programs have an internship requirement and a comprehensive exam. One would count and one would drop.

Dr. Frierson: The idea of this policy is to be more accommodating for the academic units.

Dr. Moraca: This policy would be effective in the next catalog year.

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

II. DISCUSSION ITEM:

- 6. International Dual Degree Policies and list of International Dual Degree Programs approved with faculty, student, and institution.** Dr. Frierson explained that these are approved on an individual basis and are not based on broad-ranging programs. These proposals will still have to come to Graduate Council for approval. The students have to complete all of the requirements to earn a UF PhD just as a regular student would. The student will have enough credits to earn a UF PhD regardless of what the other institutions do; these agreements are ways for other universities to have an affiliation with UF. If there are any issues at the partner institution, it does not affect the student earning the UF PhD. These agreements occur mostly in the College of Engineering, as there is a large number of international faculty.

GC Member: So is it true that if the other institution went away, the student would still be able to receive a UF PhD?

Dr. Frierson: Yes, they have to meet all of the requirements of the UF PhD program, so they would earn a UF PhD.

GC Member: That was not clear. The perception before was that the student would be able to pull some credits from here, some from other there.

GC Member: They cannot transfer up to 50% of credits from the other institution.

GC Member: We allow close to 50% transfer credit anyway.

GC Member: The issue is confounding because we have a lot of students who spend a few months somewhere else that does not end with them earning two PhDs.

Dr. Frierson: These dual degrees are agreements that one of our faculty wants to make to have a collaborative agreement with the faculty at the other institution. These proposals still have to be vetted by Graduate Council and they make the final decision. And, there are not many of these---maybe one or two a year. The other institution's awarding of the second PhD is perfunctory, it's not a classic dual-degree program. Their diploma will say University of Florida PhD.

GC Member: The benefit seems to be to the other institution.

GC Member: From a student standpoint, the student can transfer credits anywhere for a second PhD. The problem is in the dissertation copyright, that the student is submitting one dissertation for two degrees. They are basically giving themselves permission to self-plagiarize.

Ms. Wallace: The student is the ultimate copyright holder. Students will have to cite their work as co-published for each institution.

GC Member: But a difference in format does not make it two dissertations.

Dr. Moraca: Some of the information on the document is incorrect in that it indicates that the proposals did not go through Graduate Council for approval, but they did. We will revise the document and resend it to Council.

GC Member: Why aren't these joint degrees?

GC Member: We discussed this last month. Degrees between two domestic institutions would be easier to do that way, but in dealing with international universities, it can be difficult to get the diploma signed, as in Spain's case where it has to be signed by the king. It would be unreasonable to hold up the issuance of the diploma.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS:

7. **Proposal from the College of Engineering to remove the DEP code for Electrical and Computer Engineering from a list of Biomedical Engineering courses effective spring 2016.**
8. **Request to transfer GMS 6335 from the Department of Medicine (312905000) to the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology (312926000) effective spring 2016 (Enclosure 8).**
9. **Update about Graduate Council ballot 2016-2019.** Nominated new members are Dr. Karen Bjorndal (Biology) and Dr. Bruce Macfadden (Florida Museum of Natural History). Results will be sent to the Provost, who will appoint the remaining two members.

10. Graduate Programs

- Self-Funded Graduate Certificate in Cross-Media Sales
- Self-Funded Online Program for the Master of Science in Biostatistics

Meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m.