

**MINUTES
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES**

MEETING: April 3, 2017

PRESENT: B. Burraston, R. Cohen, M. Conroy, R. Cox, E. Delavega, S. Fleming, N. Detraz, T. Hagen, K. Hicks, W. James, C. Lessman, J. Lariscy (proxy), C. Powell, S. Roakes, T. Roche, J. Scraba, J. Topinka, D. Unowsky

ABSENT: P. Simone

PRESIDING: R. Kreuz; V. Tardugno, recording secretary

Welcome to Joseph Lariscy, representing Sociology.

Approval of the minutes from March 13, 2017 meeting (T. Hagen; N. Detraz, second)

Announcements

An archive of the Council minutes is now available on UMDrive, in the folder “Graduate Council archive.” It currently goes back to the beginning of 2016.

Reports: March 29 College Directors meeting

NCUR

The spring Graduate School Recruitment and Information Fair has been wrapped into this event, in an abbreviated form. The College has three tables, one per division, which they would like us to staff on Thursday and Friday afternoons. The tables will be behind the elevators in the UC, and there will be hospitality in the Senate Chambers on the second floor.

NCUR students will be registering in the FIT on the mezzanine level starting Wednesday evening, and going through Friday. Mary Kyle has asked to have graduate program information available at this location as well.

Dr. Kreuz reminded the Council members that they should have received the list of NCUR participants by discipline a while back. The Council members were encouraged to send out an e-mail right away to the students in their area, and invite them to their open houses.

Dr. Kreuz added that the Council should be aware that campus parking and dining on Thursday and Friday would be limited. Many classes have been cancelled, and many staff will be working from home, but there will be about 4,000 visiting students and faculty milling around. His advice was to get to campus very early in the morning if they want to be able to park in their normal locations.

Curriculog

Dr. Kreuz reported that this is the new software system that will be used to maintain and update the undergraduate and graduate catalogs. Dr. Kreuz and V. Tardugno will be going through training on this system during the next couple of months, and they will demo the system to the Council in the fall. This should be an improvement over the current system, as it is a paperless program.

Decision Desk

Jim Kierulff reported that requests for modifications are still trickling in, and all such requests must be turned in by April 15.

International Students

Given the situation created by the new federal administration, international student applications are down 11% at the U of M. This is happening nationally as well. The university will continue to work with ~40 recruiting partners abroad to encourage students to apply.

The department of Political Science hosted a Q&A session about immigration policy on March 22. If any of your international students have been asking you questions about visas and related matters, you should refer them to the new International Education Services Center, which opened in February in the old Panhellenic Building. Dr. Kreuz has contact information for the U of M legal counsel member who is familiar with these issues. He can pass it along if anyone need it. They are willing to talk to students who are having issues.

An immigration forum will be held on Wednesday at 2:30 in the UC (Shelby room). The President, Provost, and legal counsel will be present for questions.

Dr. Dhaliwal reiterated that the Graduate School remains flexible on the subject of conditional acceptances. The Graduate School may grant waivers of catalog requirements if asked.

GPA policy proposal

The GPA policy proposal that was approved last month was rewritten by the Graduate School to provide some context for the motion.

The proposal was briefly discussed by the College Directors. In general, there was support for the proposal. Dr. Dhaliwal noted, however, noted three issues that will need to be addressed:

- 1) A check with the Registrar to ensure that this can be done;
- 2) A review of how other graduate programs at our peer institutions handle this; and
- 3) A check to see what implications this may have for SACS

Therefore, Dr. Dhaliwal plans to have a subcommittee examine the issue over the summer, and then have it proposed at the University Graduate Council in September.

Student video interviews

Dr. Kreuz has asked the Graduate School about the format and questions being used for the student video interviews, but hasn't heard anything back yet.

NCUR table staffing

Dr. Kreuz explained the need to have three tables assigned to the College staffed between 12 and 5 on Thursday and Friday. It was discovered that the NCUR website did not have the department open house list up to date. Volunteers from the Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Natural Sciences and Math were recorded. Council members said they would send faculty and graduate student volunteers to V. Tardugno.

New business

No new business was brought before the Council.

Dr. Kreuz announced that the deadline for curriculum revisions would be August 1, and that the undergraduate curriculum will be switching to rolling submissions throughout the year. Dr. Kreuz asked for opinions about switching to rolling submissions. Dr. Hagen suggested that this could be done once a semester or that departments could be assigned certain months to submit their paperwork. Some Council members reported they would submit curriculum changes to the College before the end of this semester.

Motion to adjourn? (N. Detraz, B. Burraston second)

Notes taken by Tori Tardugno; minutes prepared by Roger Kreuz