
GRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL

Minutes of 22 September 2022

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Council was called to order at 3 p.m. on 22 September 2022 virtually via Webex by William Rantz, Ex Officio.

Members Present: Dawn Anderson, Louann Bierlein Palmer (substitute for Regina Garza Mitchell), Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Jennifer Fiore, James Palmitessa, Dianna Sachs, Nicolas Witschi, Marcellis Zondag

Members Absent: Julie Apker, Upal Attanayake, Carrie Cumming, Rob Lyerla

Advisory Members Present: Edwin Martini

Ex Officio Present: William Rantz

Guests: Malia Roberts, Interim Senior Director, Graduate College

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Agenda

A correction was made to the agenda to reflect approval of the 26 May 2022 minutes, not the 21 April 2022 minutes.

[MOTION] It was moved by Bierlein Palmer, seconded by Anderson, to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

[MOTION] It was moved by Rantz, and seconded by Bierlein Palmer, to elect the following: Dawn Anderson as Chair; Marcellis Zondag as Vice Chair; Louann Bierlein Palmer as Secretary. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A correction was made to fix the spelling of Dianna Sachs.

[MOTION] It was moved by Bierlein Palmer, seconded by Rantz, to approve the 26 May 2022 minutes as amended. The motion carried.

Reports of Officers

Ex Officio Rantz reviewed the Graduate Studies Council 2022-23 Charges.

Reports of University Representatives

Byrd-Jacobs reported that graduate enrollment is down 7.7% from fall 2021, although new admissions were up slightly. Byrd-Jacobs reported that 20 welcome scholarships were awarded and provided updates on various Graduate College issues.

Martini reported on the summer faculty development offerings. Many graduate students took advantage of the development offerings. Martini addressed an issue regarding student confusion in reference to programs offering both an online and an on-campus section of dissertation credits, and whether this is needed. Online students are able to enroll in the on-campus section of dissertation credits. Departments do not have to offer dual sections of dissertation credits for each faculty member.

Witschi provided an overview of Curriculog, the new online curriculum system.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

None.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Rantz, seconded by Sachs, to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Graduate Studies Council will meet next on 27 October 2022 at 3 p.m. virtually via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Louann Bierlein Palmer, Secretary

Minutes approved on 27 October 2022.