
GRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL

Minutes of 24 March 2022

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Council was called to order at 3:02 p.m. on 24 March 2022 virtually via Webex by Gene Freudenburg, chair.

Members Present: Dawn Anderson, Michele Behr, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Carrie Cumming, Jennifer Fiore, Gene Freudenburg, Muralidhar Ghantasala, Lori Gray, Timothy Michael, Leah Omilion-Hodges (substitute for Julie Apker), James Palmitessa, Candice Seifer, Nicolas Witschi

Members Absent: Rob Lyerla, Marcellis Zondag

Advisory Members Present: Tamara Morgan (substitute for Edwin Martini)

Ex Officio Present: David Flanagan

Guest(s): Jill Braman, Vice President, Graduate Student Association; Kristal Ehrhardt, Interim Chair, Special Education and Literacy Studies; Malia Roberts, Interim Senior Director, Graduate College

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Agenda

Two curriculum proposals were added to the agenda.

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

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Flanagan, seconded by Ghantasala, to approve the 24 February 2022 minutes as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Freudenburg reported that he will be presenting MOA-22/01: Revision of Graduate Requirements for Specialist Degree to Include a Capstone Option for Programs at the 7 April Faculty Senate meeting. He thanked the members for volunteering to serve on the review subcommittee for the All-University Teaching Effectiveness and Research Awards.

Ex Officio Flanagan provided the report of the Accessible Technology Committee.

Reports of University Representatives

Graduate Dean Byrd-Jacobs reported on the status of the Vice President for Research and Innovation search. A total of five candidates will be visiting the campus. The Three-Minute Thesis competition winner, Tabitha DiBacco, will be representing WMU at the Midwest Regional competition. Byrd-Jacobs encouraged GSC members to greet and acknowledge students during Graduate Student Appreciation Week, 4 to 8 April. The Graduate College is mailing individual letters to all graduate students appreciating their work and contributions to the University.

Due to Martini's absence, no report was provided.

Seifer provided the Graduate Student Association report. She introduced GSA Vice President Jill Braman. Seifer reported that new leadership has been elected for GSA. She provided information about the graduate student appreciation week and the success of the graduate student reading/writing study circle programs.

Reports of Council/Committee Standing Committees

Behr provided the All-University Graduate Student Research and Creative Scholars Award committee report. There are 15 nominations. While the individual reviews have been completed, the committee will be meeting to finalize the recommendations.

Fiore provided the All-University Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness committee report. There are 14 nominations. The committee will be finalizing the recommendations.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Ehrhardt presented a summary of the GSC_CEHD1143_SPLS_Deletion-MA-SpecialEducationAdmin curriculum proposals and addressed questions.

[MOTION] It was moved by Flanagan, seconded by Behr, to approve proposal GSC_CEHD1143_SPLS_Deletion-MA-Special EducationAdmin. The motion carried unanimously.

Gray presented a summary for the College of Health and Human Services curriculum proposals and addressed questions.

[MOTION] It was moved by Anderson, seconded by Flanagan, to approve the following list of proposals. The motion carried unanimously.

1. GSC_CHHS03-21_SIHP_New-Cert-MindfulnessCenteringSkills
2. GSC_CHHS04-21_SIHP_Deletion-Cert-HolisticApproachesMindfulness
3. GSC_CHHS05-21_SIHP_Deletion-Cert-HolisticApproachesStressMgt
4. GSC_CHHS06-21_SIHP_New-Cert-ResiliencyWell-BeingSkills
5. GSC_CHHS07-21_SIHP_Deletion-Cert-IntegrativeHolisticHealthWellness
6. GSC_CHHS08-21_SIHP_Deletion-Cert-HolisticApproachSpirituallyHealing
7. GSC_CHHS09-21_SIHP_Deletion-Cert-HolisticApproachEnhanceDailyLiving
8. GSC_CHHS10-21_SIHP_New-Cert-HolismContemplativeHealthCare
9. GSC_CHHS_New-Cert-HealthandWellnessCoachingSkills

The GSC/USC_CAS21-08_GEOG_Other-ADP-Geography curriculum proposal was postponed to the next meeting.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Flanagan, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the meeting at 4:02 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The next Graduate Studies Council meeting will be 21 April 2022 at 3 p.m. via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Muralidhar Ghantasala, secretary.

Minutes approved on 24 April 2022.