

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**

Faculty Senate

MINUTES

Thursday, October 17th, 2024, 2:30 PM

Graduate School Conference Room, RH 2215

PRESENT: Cinnamon VanPutte (Chair), Priscilla Codjoe, Soondo Kweon, Therese Dickman, Liz Cali, Jill Smucker, Gloria Sweida, Eric Wrobbel, Carole Frick, Cheryl Borowiak, Bhargav Patel, Ramana Madupalli, Adriana Martinez, Chin-Chuan Wei, Rony Die

ABSENT:

EXCUSED: Andrea Keller, Bernadette Sobczak, Iyanuoluwa Fatunmbi

GUESTS:

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Cinnamon VanPutte, Chair.

I. Announcements

- A. Course Review Committee (CRC) Report – On SharePoint
- B. Graduate Committee on Assessment (GCOA) Report – On SharePoint
- C. Enrollment Management Report
  - i. Jim Monahan let the Council know that application numbers are similar to where they were last year. He also let the Council know that the recent graduate student open houses had been well attended, but mainly by international students. It seems that conducting open houses via Zoom is not attracting domestic students. This is something that will be evaluated for future open houses.
  - ii. Jim also let the Council know that international applicants are still encountering challenges with visa approvals, particularly when coming from Africa and China.
- D. Student Affairs Announcements – None
- E. International Affairs Announcements
  - i. Cheryl Borowiak let the Council know about a pumpkin carving event taking place soon for international students.
- F. Graduate School Announcements
  - i. Liz Cali let the Council know that the Graduate School is still waiting on an interim dean, so she is still acting in that role for now. The search for a new dean is progressing.

- ii. The Graduate School has been working with Jim Monahan to collaborate on the graduate student open houses and will continue to work with him to update them. Jill Smucker has been instrumental in those efforts. One thing they are emphasizing is reaching more of our own undergraduate students.
- iii. Liz let the Council know about a change in the way policy changes are approved. Certain policies that have a broader impact than just the Graduate School will need to be approved at a University-level going forward. This will mean that these types of policy changes may take longer to be implemented. A Council member asked if Liz knew the logic behind the change and she mentioned making sure that other stakeholders have a chance to review policy changes before they are implemented in case of legal or other procedural impacts.
- iv. A Council member asked if the drone policy could be reviewed in this new process and Liz said that she would check on that.

G. Other Announcements- None

II. Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2024

Carole Frick motioned to approve the minutes. Eric Wrobbel seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. Public Comments – None

IV. Report of the Educational and Research Policies (ERP) Committee

- A. GR2425-02 Policy on Graduate Student Matriculation, Advisement, Instruction, Evaluation, and Assistantships- Policy 1L6
- B. GR2324-03 International Travel Policy

Bhargav Patel let the council know that ERP had reviewed the Policy on Graduate Student Matriculation, Advisement, Instruction, Evaluation, and Assistantships and recommended no changes to it.

On the International Travel Policy, the committee has suggested clarification to the policy regarding the action that would be taken for non-compliance. The committee suggested adding this sentence: "Disciplinary action such as potential loss of future funding including but not limited to graduate school, department and other university funding." The Council discussed getting clarification on what kind of disciplinary action could be taken and who would oversee it. Since the policy is a federal policy, the University is not in charge of much of the language included in it. Liz Cali suggested adding a comment in the document, with the additional sentence, and asking Export Control for clarity on what is meant by disciplinary action.

Eric Wrobbel motioned to accept the ERP report with the additional sentence. Carole Frick seconded the motion. The motion carried.

V. Report of the Programs Committee

- A. Interim Program Review: Diversity & Equity in Education

- B. Integrative Studies 91A: Removal of program tracks & updates to admission requirements of other tracks

Gloria Sweida summarized the interim program review for Diversity Equity in Education and the Integrative Studies 91A.

The Council accepted the Programs Committee report with no changes or opposition.

VI. Continuing Business

- A. APR/Dean of the Graduate School Search Update

Cinnamon VanPutte let the Council know that the search committee for the APR/Dean of the Graduate School position had done an initial review of all the candidates, 44 total that met the minimum plus a finalist from the previous round of the search. The committee plans to discuss the finalists next Monday to determine who will receive an invitation to a Zoom interview.

VII. New Business - None

VIII. Adjournment

Gloria Sweida motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:03 PM. Ramana Madupalli seconded the motion. The motion carried.