

**Present:** Susan Awbrey (*Chair*), Kris Condic (*Ex Officio*), Joanne Lipson Freed, Meghan Harris, Zissimos Mourelatos, Robert Noiva (Co-Chair), Linda Pavonetti, Claire Rammel (*Ex Officio*) Meir Shillor, Julia Smith, Kris Thompson

**Excused:** Mohammad-Reza Siadat, Rajeev Singhal

**Staff:** Celia Knobelsdorf (Secretary)

The meeting called to order at 1:32 PM

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Julie Smith moved to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2019, Graduate Council Meeting as written. Meghan Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

#### **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

- N/A

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Modifications**

- **Online MBA Program Delivery Mode Modification**

Reviewer: Julia Smith

Niivedita Mukherji Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Economics School of Business Administration addressed the Council regarding the modifications to the MBA Program in Section 4 and Section 5. Council requested clarification in Section 4 on how program will provide distance learners with information. Program will use webinars and/or skype.

After discussion, the council requested that modifications to the wording be made to Section 1.1 statement needs to be added that this modification is adding three additional courses to the online program. In Section 3.1 a statement that students in the 100% online program can only choose the general program, concentrations cannot be chosen. Finally, in Section 4 a statement that information to enrolled students will be disseminated through webinar and/or skype.

*Julie Smith moved to approve the Online MBA Program Delivery Mode Modification upon revisions. If this is completed and submitted to the Graduate Council a vote for approval will be conducted online. Meir Shillor seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

- **Psychology Ph.D. Modification**

Reviewer(s): Meghan Harris and Rajeev Singhal

The Department completed the Curriculog form, a form used in Undergraduate. In addition, corrections need to be made on Page 3 the Department used the old name for Graduate School. The curriculum provided also used the old three digit course codes for classes.

The Council is requesting the Department complete the correct form and update the catalog course codes. Dr. Awbrey will reach out to the Department to have this done.

- **MS in Exercise Science Program Modification**

Meir Shillor and Zissimos Mourelatos agreed to review this modification.

This modification was a straightforward request. Modification is requesting to relax application requirements by waiving the GRE. Program would like to drop the pre-requirement of statistics and go from 36 credits to 32 credits. The internship will become optional.

*Zissimos Mourelatos made the motion to waive a seconded reading. Meghan Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Linda Pavonetti made the motion to approve the MS in Exercise Science Program Modification. Meir Shillor seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

- **Graduate Certificate Program Leadership, Diversity & Organizational Communication**  
Kris Thompson and Julia Smith agreed to review this modification.

## **B. FOR DISCUSSION**

- **Post Candidacy Full-Time Credits.**  
Cindy Hermesen, Director of Financial Aid and Dave Archbold, Director of International Students will address the Council regarding full-time student status as it affects financial assistance to students. Currently, OU defines 8 credits as full-time for and 4 credits as half time graduate students. This has an impact on Federal student loans. A student must carry at least 4 credits in order for students not to go into repayment. However, loan is gaining interest. Private loans do not carry the same requirements.

Dr. Susan Awbrey would like to consider allowing 4 credits to be considered as full-time for candidacy students. Ms. Hermesen indicated that after reaching out to other public higher learning institutions in Michigan they have lowered their credit limits. Mr. Archbold indicated that this change would have to be SEVIS for international students.

Ms. Hermesen indicated that in order to change the definition of full-time status a Policy will need to be designed. This will need to include a definition of method, communication and steps to follow.

The Council will dedicate a future meeting to this issue.

- **Review Program Modification Form**  
Council will review the materials Kris Condic provided to the Council at the November 6, 2019. Material includes other institutions Graduate Program Modifications forms. In addition, the Council will review the current OU Graduate School forms. Discussion on improving the forms will occur at the December 11, 2019 meeting.

## **GOOD AND WELFARE**

N/A

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:06 p.m.