

Oakland University

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, October 19, 2016—Meeting #4

Location: 242 KL

Meeting Time: 1:30-3:30 pm

Approved: 11/16/2016

Present: Kris Condic (*Ex Officio*), Ledong Li, Robert Noiva, Claudia Petrescu (Chair), Claire Rammel (*Ex Officio*), Darlene Schott-Baer (for Margaret Glembocki), Mohammad-Reza Siadat, Rajeev Singhal, Julia Smith, Kris Thompson, and Jennifer Vonk

Absent: Margaret Glembocki, Zissimos Mourelatos, and Meir Shillor,

Staff: Tina Tucker (Secretary)

Visitor: Paul Battle, Associate Registrar

Claudia Petrescu called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mohammad-Reza Siadat moved to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2016, Graduate Council Meeting with correction of typo. Ledong Li second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Met with the Graduate Research Conference Committee today. The conference is scheduled for March 10, 2017. The call for abstracts will be going out soon, and the deadline will be around January 13, 2017.

Graduate Open House is today. Approximately 420 perspective students registered to attend.

REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMMITTEE—Mohammad-Reza Siadat

Have completed creating the policy for the Faculty Fellowship Award. Application deadline is in the beginning of November. Deadline for announcing the recipient is in December.

OLD BUSINESS

Criteria and process for awarding Graduate Study scholarships to students who apply by early admission deadlines

Master of Science in Information Technology Program Modification Proposal: Reviewers: Kris Thompson (**Tabled until further notice**)

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Oakland University Grading System

Paul Battle, Associate Registrar, presented OU's proposed grading system. He explained that this change in the grading system is to align OU with the grading system of other universities. Secondly, he presented the proposed modification to the GPA, which is to replace truncation at the second decimal point with rounding at the third decimal point.

After discussion, Darlene Schott-Baer made the motion to waive the second reading of the proposed grading system. Kristine Thompson second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Schott-Baer then moved to approve the new proposed grading system as presented. Dr. Thompson second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Vonk moved to waive the second reading of the proposal to replace truncation with rounding at the third decimal point in computing GPA. Rajeev Singhal second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Singhal moved to approve the proposal to replace truncation with rounding at the third decimal point in computing GPA. Dr. Vonk second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

New Policy: Modification to English Proficiency Requirement

Dr. Petrescu presented proposed updates to the current policy for English Language Proficiency for Admission to Graduate Programs. Effective July 13, 2016, the Department of Homeland Security issued a new ruling stating that F1 status students who are conditionally admitted due to not fulfilling the English language proficiency cannot be issued I-20s for academic programs. These students can no longer take ESL classes at the same time as academic classes. Students must first take ESL classes until they are proficient in English, then enroll full time in academic classes. Therefore, the University issues first an I-20 for the student to come and study ESL.

After some discussion, Dr. Schott-Baer made a motion to waive the second reading of the proposed policy updates. Dr. Thompson second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Schott-Baer moved to approve the updates to the policy for English Language Proficiency for Admission to Graduate Programs. Dr. Thompson second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

GOOD AND WELFARE

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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned approximately 3:00 PM.