

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

Excused: Meghan Harris, Rajeev Singhal

Staff: Celia Knobelsdorf (Secretary)

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Robert Noiva moved to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2019, Graduate Council Meeting as written. Meir Shillor seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- **Membership**

Dr. Awbrey welcomed everyone to the meeting. Dr. Linda Pavonetti replaced Ledong Li from Education and Dr. Joanne Lipson Freed has replaced Jennifer Vonk from the College of Arts and Sciences.

- **MEd in International Baccalaureate Education (IB)**

On 6 January 2016, the Graduate Council approved the proposal to modify the M.Ed. in Educational Studies with a concentration in IB to the M.Ed. in International Baccalaureate Education – effective fall 2016. No new cohorts were admitted and fall in 2019 the program was ended. The MEd in IB will be providing a semester of teach-out in Winter 2020 to allow students who were close to completion to finish the program.

The School of Education would like to temporarily reopen the MEd in IB Program for one semester to award three students their degree. After careful consideration, the Graduate School would like to support this one time request and has brought this to Graduate Council for informal consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Slash Courses**

Deferred

A. Modifications

- **Clinical Nurse Leader Master's Degree Modification.**

Reviewer: Kris Thompson

The proposal presents a strong rationale for the re-instatement of the CNL degree program. There are strong letters of support. An apparent need for this program and the support of employers that are interested in hiring nurses with this degree. This would assist with the University's goal of increasing enrollment of Master level students.

Areas of concern with the modifications were discussed. Proposed modifications were discussed. The format for delivery is confusing. Described as a hybrid format with partially on-line and fully on-line courses. Number of credits is inconsistent. Modification indicates a cohort model of 12 students, but does not mention if this is yearly, only enrolled in fall, nor does it state how many student might be enrolled. Plan of Study needs clarification. Proposal mentions Appendix B, but did not provide the appendix. A list of courses for pre-reqs along with a brief descriptions of new courses would be helpful.

Dr. Awbrey will contact the School of Nursing and ask that the issues be addressed and rewritten. Once Council receives the rewrite a member of the School will be asked to address the Council to clarify any concerns.

- **Graduate Certificate in Oncology Rehabilitation Modification**

Reviewer: Robert Noiva

The proposed modification to the Graduate Certificate in Oncology Rehabilitation, this was a simple request, one modification, to change the admissions requirements of the certificate program Oncology Rehabilitation in the OU School of Health Sciences to allow Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists, Physical Therapists and Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants to enroll in the program. Currently, only degreed Physical Therapist are allowed to enroll. No other aspects of the program will be modified.

The rationale is sound. There are other rehabilitation professionals that would benefit from this additional training and the program has received requests from individuals trained in those other disciplines to be allowed to enroll in this certificate program.

Meir Shillor made the motion to waive a second reading. Julia Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meir Shillor moved to approve the Graduate Certificate in Oncology Rehabilitation Modification. Robert Noiva seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Online MBA Program Delivery Mode Modification**

Reviewer: Julia Smith

Unfortunately, the MBA Program did not complete and submit the correct form. They completed the Modify Approved Graduate Academic Program form, but should have completed the Request to Replace, Delete or Add Instructional Delivery Method form. Therefore, not enough information was provided to complete a comprehensive review. Council had concerns with number of credits and concentrations for program.

The MBA Program will be asked to complete the correct form and submit it to the Council. Upon receipt of the form Council will invite a representative of the program to address the Council regarding this modification.

- **Online MPA Program Delivery Mode Modification**

Kris Condic and Joanne Lipson Freed agreed to review this modification.

B. FOR DISCUSSION

- **TOEFL Score Policy Discussion.** Currently, TOEFL is now using the “Best Fit” method. Graduate School is looking to conduct a two year pilot program to ascertain if this method will work for OU. During this time, other tests, such ILETS may go to this method. Council supported the pilot.
- **Post Candidacy Full-Time Credits.**
Proposal to reduce credits necessary for Full-time status for post candidacy students. Reduce the number of credits for full-time status for post candidacy PhD students to four credits. At this time post-candidacy PhD students are taking dissertation credits. Four credits will allow the students to qualify for loans whereas one credit will not. Full-time status affects cost of attendance, scholarships and fellowships. Concern is how this would affect International Students.

Council will ask Cindy Hermsen, Director of Financial Aid and Dave Archbold, Director of International Students to address the Council regarding full-time student status as it impacts financial assistance to students.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Accounting Preparation of Program Review**

Graduate Council has not received answers to the questions submitted to the MACC program. Dr. Awbrey will personally contact the School of Business regarding whether or not they want to use what was submitted as their action items and goals. Will provide findings as they become available.

GOOD AND WELFARE

- Mohammad Reza-Siadat, Associate Professor of Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering approached the Council regarding developing a dual degree program, Master of Cybersecurity and Master of Computer Science. Currently, the School offers separate Masters in each of these programs. A dual degree program would assist with enrollment goals. It is an attempt to make it more effective to students. It would only be for OU students enrolled in these programs. Would the

Graduate Council support a dual program. At this time other institutions do offer dual degrees. The creation of a third program, a dual degree would have to be developed. In paper work it would be one degree, when awarded it would be two degrees. Dr. Reza-Siadat will work with Program to develop this dual program.

- Kris Thompson asked that in the future will the Council have the Three Minute Masters Competition. At this time Dr. Awbrey had not received any information regarding this. She will investigate.
- Kris Thompson inquired about the Graduate Faculty Outstanding Mentor Award. Dr. Awbrey indicated that this would take place this year.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:38 p.m.