Oakland University
GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, January 22, 2024

Location: In-person and Online
Meeting Time: 3:00 - 5:00 PM
Approved

Present: Brandy Randall, (*Chair)*, Joanne Lipson-Freed *(Co-Chair),* Claire Rammel (*Ex Officio*), Nicole Boelk, Helen Levenson, Seong Yeon Cho**,** Darrin Hanna, Anne Hranchook, John Krauss, Victoria Lucia, Daniel Llamocca Obregon, Thandi Sulé Meir Shillor, Paul Weinberg,

Absent: none

Staff: Linda Hutcheson (*Secretary*)

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The closing of the OU capital campaign was announced today. The Grad School did quite well.

<u>O'Dowd Award</u> Update

- Thanks to a recent generous contribution from Dr. Don O'Dowd, the Don and Jan O'Dowd Graduate Award endowment is in good shape financially and is able to bestow an award to a student this year.
- Brandy asked that Graduate Council members promote the award to their department.
- Thanks also to Joanne Lipson-Freed and Kris Thompson for all of their work with this award during this past year.
- This year's nomination process will only have faculty and staff making nominations.
- The award is open to all graduate students including the OU William Beaumont School of Medicine students.
- John Krauss and Joanne volunteered to serve on this year's Nomination Committee. Paul Weinberg volunteered to be a third member of the committee if needed.

<u>Three Minute Theis Competition and Graduate Student Showcase</u> Reminder

- Brandy asked Graduate Council members to help promote this. John Krauss reported that they've already done so in their department.
    - Trophies with the winners' names will be housed in their academic departments' offices until the next year's competition.
    - This is an important professional development opportunity. Participation helps students speak about their work with people outside of their specialty. Former participants, especially international students, report feeling more confident in their communication skills and ready for job interviews.

All joined Brandy Randall in warmly welcoming back Thandi Sulé.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Krauss introduced a motion to approve the minutes for the January 8, 2022, meeting. Anne Hranchook seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. **B.S. Exercise Science / M.S. Exercise Science, Combined, UG Program Modification**
   Reviewer: Claire Rammel

   The modification involves the removal and addition of a small number of Undergraduate courses. There are no changes to the Graduate portion of the Combined program. This proposal has UCUI approval and has been brought to us as an Informational Item. Senate is expecting it.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **MS in Smart Manufacturing, New Degree Program:** first reading, debatable, amendable, and not eligible for final vote at this meeting.
   Reviewers: Anne Hranchook, Meir Shillor
   Presenter(s): Vijitashwa Pandey

   Revised proposal should be submitted with the following:

   - Library assessment specific to this program
   - Marketing report with launch budget information from UCM included
   - Updates to pages 4, 10, and 14 as noted in Anne Hranchook's review.
   - An error in the listing of one course in the Plan of Study section of the original proposal will be corrected.
   - Signatures and the dates of signatures on pages 2 and 3.
   - Page numbers added to the Table of Contents.

   Dr Pandey agreed to consider requesting more resources, including for additional faculty and teaching assistants.

   The Graduate School will reach out to Dr Pandey with instructions on how to upload the revised proposal to Curriculog.

2. **Master of Business Administration and Online Master of Business Administration, Program Modification:** first reading, debatable, amendable, and not eligible for final vote at this meeting.
   Reviewers: Darrin Hanna, Paul Weinberg
   Presenter(s): Rajeev Singhal, Paul Trumbull

   Dr Singhal agreed to send answers and a revised proposal that addresses Darrin Hanna's review and the following
   - 'Course class' updated to 'exempted core course' as noted in Darrin Hanna's review.
   - Include that there are concentrations and list all of the allowed courses for each concentration.

- If the more stringent Core Course Exemption criteria remain in the proposal, then details must be added describing how they will determine that they're current in the subject matter, and also the rationale for making the criteria more stringent should be provided.
- Address whether lower division undergraduate courses qualify an applicant for waivers of core classes.
- Provide a list of which courses fulfill the International requirement (this should also go in the Catalog copy)

3. **Call for volunteer to write proposal for Graduate Mentor Award for faculty who are not in tenure-line positions**

   Two Grad Council members, Thandi Sulé and Anne Hranchook volunteered to work on writing this proposal to present to Assistant Vice President Peggy Cooke and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Britt Rios-Ellis. Claire Rammel will forward the original mentor award proposal and Brandy Randall will forward the Graduate School Faculty Fellow proposal to the volunteers for their review to possibly use as templates.

4. **Discussion of minimum number of Post-Master's Doctoral Program credits**

   Discussion tabled until the February 5, 2024, meeting. Claire will provide more information.

5. **Discussion of Slash courses and 50% Stand Alone grad rule**

   Not discussed due to time constraints.

GOOD AND WELFARE

The Graduate School interviews are moving along. An internal CT7 has been hired to move into the CT8 position left vacant by Kelly Robinson's shift on to Grad Team 2. An offer will be made to a candidate for Jess Taylor's former CT8 position.

Additionally, there have been 39 applications for the Unit Marketing and Enrollment Coordinator position and candidates to interview have been selected.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm