

Present: Dan Aloj, Margaret Glembocki, Ledong Li, Karl Majeske, Robert Noiva, Claire Rammel (*Ex Officio*), Brad Roth, Darlene Schott-Baer (Chair), Meir Shillor, Julia Smith

Absent: Kris Condic (*Ex Officio*), Mike Polis, and Kris Thompson (all excused)

Staff: Julie Delaney and Tina Tucker (Secretary)

Guest: Diane Underwood

Visitor: Todd Liebert

The meeting was convened by Darlene Schott-Baer, Chair, at 2:00 PM.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Karl Majeske moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2015, Graduate Council Meeting as written. Brad Roth seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Today's agenda will need to be shorten to accommodate several voting members that need to leave early for other commitments. The PhD in Counseling Program Modification Proposal will be addressed today and the remaining agenda items will be moved to the next scheduled meeting.

Dr. Schott-Baer stated that she had distributed the notice in reference to the two-year catalog. She said, based on the number of people notified and the number of people that responded back, there was a ratio of 7% negative feedback. Graduate Study will be moving forward with the two-year catalog.

Dr. Schott-Baer asked for two volunteers to review the Master of Science in Safety Management Program Modification Proposal and the Master of Engineering Management Program Modification Proposal. Karl Majeske and Ledong Li volunteered to review both proposals.

III. OLD BUSINESS

PhD in Counseling Program Modification Proposal. Reviewers: Bob Noiva and Meir Shillor.

Second Reading: Debatable, amendable, and eligible for final vote at this meeting.

Motion: ***To approve the program modification proposal for the PhD in Counseling Program.***

The modifications proposed involve reducing the program length from 84 credits to 64 credits; refining the content of three current courses to focus more on research rather than practice; and modifying the admissions process by removing the on-site examination.

The Council had questions concerning dissertation and credits. Members of Graduate Council thought that the four (4) credits for dissertation as proposed would not be the norm and had concerns that the likely number of credits would be closer to twelve (12) credits. Todd Liebert attended today's meeting to address any questions or concerns.

Dr. Liebert stated that lowering the dissertation credits would make the program more attractive to students and competitive with other similar programs around the country. He explained that lowering the dissertation credits would be beneficial to those students who are able to produce a quality dissertation in less time than the sixteen credits currently required. Currently, students who are able to produce a quality dissertation in less time than the current sixteen (16) required credits are still required to pay for credits that are not needed. Council members raised concerns that lowering the dissertation credits would lower the quality of the dissertations produced. Dr. Liebert noted that the four (4) credits would just be the minimum required, not the average that it would take to complete a quality dissertation. The number of dissertation credits does not reflect the actual number of hours spent on completing a dissertation. He also stressed that lowering the required dissertation hours does not lower the quality and standards expected of the dissertations by the department. The number of credits has nothing to do with expected quality of dissertations or the time and task put in my faculty. It only reflects the cost of the dissertation credits.

Meir Shillor moved to amend the motion to approve the modifications to the PhD in Counseling Program with the revision that the number of credits will be indicated as a minimum of four (4) credits. Julia Smith seconded the amended motion. Motion passed with seven ayes and one abstention.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

V. GOOD AND WELFARE

No report.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned approximately 3:05 PM.