

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA  
GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING  
December 4, 2013 MINUTES  
Robertson Hall, Room 311**

All actions taken by the Graduate Council will have a twenty-one (21) day faculty protest period except for new courses, course changes and petitions which will be considered approved by the Graduate Faculty if no written protest is received in the Graduate College within seven (7) days.

**Present:** Lee Williams, William Ray (via videoconference), Janis Paul, Frances Ayres, Sally Beach, Joshua Barr, Dan Cottom, Brian Fiedler, Phillip Gutierrez, Eric Heinze, Tohren Kibbey, Robert Terry, Katerina Tsetsura, Jacob Vidourek, Irvin Wagner, Todd Wuestewald

**Absent:** Anthony Cricchio, Fareshteh Hamidi, Saif Imtiaz, David Moxley, Vassilios Sikavitsas, Barry Weaver

**Guests:** Jeff Alexander, Xun Ge, Paula McWhirter, Kieran Mullen, Anthony Natale, Jennifer Peck

**Description of General Business**

- The minutes from November 6, 2013 were approved.

**Program Proposals and Modifications**

- The Community Counseling M.Ed. program name and requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Computer Science Accelerated B.S./M.S. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Computer Science M.S. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Computer Science Ph.D. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Engineering Physics M.S. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Engineering Physics Ph.D. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Physics M.S. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Physics Ph.D. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Political Science M.A. program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The proposed Graduate Certificate in Research and Evaluation was tabled for clarification.
- The Social Work MSW program requirement change was approved by unanimous vote.
- The Social Work (Advanced Standing) MSW program requirement change was unanimous vote.

**Discussion Items**

- Self-Plagiarism and Exams – Is it plagiarism to use previous work

- Dean's Evaluation – Irv Wagner gave a brief report on the dean's evaluation. The evaluation committee is waiting for results
- Graduate Management Systems Project Update – Had the first focus group meeting with a dozen departments a week ago to find out what information departments are gathering, how they are gathering it, and why. Would like to develop or find a single-package graduate management system that can be used by the Graduate College and departments. Departments are making use of the annual evaluation form. A number of departments have added a “needs improvement” category to the annual evaluation form. How much are departments are using grade reports? A lot of departments would like more reports. We would like the graduate management system to hold all of that information so the Graduate College will be able to pull report information

### **Subcommittee Reports**

- Dr. Gutierrez provided the following APR reports:
  - The APR met on October 3, 2013 to provide an overview of the process and review the procedures for the reviews.
    - The programs to be reviewed are:
      - Political Science;
      - Film and Video Studies;
      - African and African-American Studies;
      - Modern Languages, Literature and Linguistics;
      - Religious Studies;
      - Psychology;
      - Sociology;
      - Honors College.
  - The APR met on October 17, 2013 with Dean Kelly Damphousse to get his insights into the College of Arts and Sciences departments being reviewed.
  - The committee was divided into two subcommittees. Each subcommittee will review half of the programs.
  - On November 13, 2013, the committee met to discuss the Department of Political Science.
- Dr. Ayres provided the following Faculty Senate reports:
  - October 14 meeting:
    - President Boren spoke to the Faculty Senate. He indicated that, consistent with the recommendations of the Faculty Senate, if small raise funds are

available (2% or less), raises should be across-the-board. If there are funds for larger raises there should be consideration of merit.

- Human Resource assistant director, Nick Kelly gave a presentation on benefits. The plans remain the same as last year, but costs are higher. The highest cost increase is in the HMO plan, where the employee increases range from 13%-30% depending on coverage selected.
- November 13 meeting:
  - Deans Rick Luce (University Libraries) and Lee Williams (Graduate College) spoke at the Faculty Senate meeting about the new open access policy and dissertation repository. Both OU and OSU dissertations are now deposited on ShareOK.org. The issue of embargos on dissertations was discussed. Dean Luce shared the embargo period used at a number of other institutions. Most were in the range of six months to two years. A number of questions were raised from faculty regarding changes in the library and policies regarding open access and Shareok. Faculty with concerns about the embargo policy was asked to submit concerns by 11/25.
  - There were some changes in the faculty handbook approved related to accommodations for student athletes for exams, makeup exams and final exams. These mainly involved specifically listing intercollegiate athletics competitions in Provost-approved University sponsored activities.
  - Paul Spicer presented a reapportionment of the Research Council membership. This will be voted on at the December meeting. The purpose is to add more members from the social sciences, humanities and the arts in order to facilitate more reviewers for Research Council funded proposals in these areas.
- Dr. Fiedler provided the following report on the November 21, 2013 HSC Graduate Council meeting:
  - Dr. Tomasek announces he will step down as Dean of Graduate College. He will become VPR of Research.
  - Standardized form released for student evaluation of graduate courses. All graduate courses must be evaluated by students.
  - Graduate Faculty appointments approved.
  - Report from HSC Faculty Senate: Implementation of ACA will require some changes to insurance plan for HSC employees, including student plans. Apparently HSC administration official(s) confess "ACA is not fully understood yet".

- Independent of ACA, there was a question about OU policy: if a 26-year-old stays on parent's plan, and decline OU plan, is the student reimbursed? Apparently HSC policy is now, and will continue to be, "no" ...
- Online form released for annual evaluation of all students by their advisory committee (before start of fall semester).
- New rule and form for change of supervisory committee: only two signatures now required. The chair and graduate liaison.
- "Responsible Conduct of Research" training required of all graduate students and post-docs, every four years. "Refresher" training apparently will be different from initial training.
- 125 Anniversary of OU. There will be a development campaign (i.e. the Anniversary will be used to inspire people to donate \$).

### **Course Changes**

The following course changes and proposals have been unanimously approved by the Graduate Council and will be forwarded to the Academic Programs Council for further approval after the seven (7) day protest period. Only brief information regarding approved changes follows; however, original course change proposals will be on file in the Graduate College through the seven-day protest period if you have questions or concerns about any of the following. Please contact the Graduate Council Secretary, Stephanie Powers, at 325-4706 if you wish to review any of these materials.

CEES 4273. Course addition.

EACS 6673. Course addition.

ECE 5693. Course addition.

ECE 5703. Course addition.

ECE 5713. Course addition.

ECE 5723. Course addition.

EDAH 6713. Course addition.

EDPY 5263. Course addition.

EDPY 6463. Change short title. Change prerequisite. Change description. Change semester.

EDSS 5503. Change title. Change prerequisite. Change description.

EIPT 6523. Change title. Change prerequisite.

LSCJ 5203. Course addition.

LSCJ 5223. Course addition.

LSCJ 5243. Course addition.

LSCJ 5323. Course addition.

LSCJ 5533. Course addition.

LSTD 5133. Course deletion.

LSTD 5163. Course deletion.

LSTD 5183. Course deletion.

LSTD 5343. Course deletion.

LSTD 5403. Course deletion.

LSTD 5423. Course deletion.

LSTD 5433. Course deletion.

LSTD 5570. Course deletion.  
LSTD 5590. Course deletion.  
LSTD 5593. Course deletion.  
LSTD 5613. Course deletion.  
LSTD 5693. Course deletion.  
LSTD 5943. Course deletion.  
P SC 5623. Change title. Change prerequisite. Change description.  
S WK 5293. Course addition.  
S WK 5633. Change prerequisite. Change semester.  
S WK 5763. Change prerequisite. Change semester.  
S WK 5983. Change prerequisite.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4: PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be January 15, 2013.

**DISTRIBUTION DATE:** December 5, 2013

[http://www.ou.edu/content/gradweb/aud/faculty/graduate\\_council.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/gradweb/aud/faculty/graduate_council.html)