

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA  
GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING  
December 6, 2017 MINUTES  
Farzaneh Hall, Room 142**

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:** Randall Hewes, Jennifer Kisamore (present via video conference), Oluwatobi Ajagbe, Sally Beach, Susan Burke, Shane Connelly, Natalie Daugherty, Lupe Davidson, Peter Gade, Phil Gibson, Tohren Kibbey, Nina Livesey, Patrick McCann, Sanna Pederson, Zulfiquar Reza, Jeremiah Stinnett, Charles Warnken, J. Quyen Wickham, Pradeep Yadav

**Absent:** James Sluss, Nancy LaGreca, Mike Biggerstaff, Susan Laird, Mark Raymond

**Guests:** Susan Blossom, Laku Chidambaram, Adrian Fung, Mary Margaret Holt, Barbara Holtzclaw (HSC), Randy Kolar, Christina Miller, Sridhar Radhakrishnan, Randa Shehab, Sara Vaughan

**Description of General Business**

- The minutes from November 1, 2017 were unanimously approved.

**Program Modifications and Proposals**

1. Cellular & Behavioral Neurobiology Ph.D. option addition (Exercise Physiology) was unanimously approved.
2. Graduate Certificate in Data Analytics for Information Professionals embedded certificate proposal was unanimously approved.
3. Graduate Certificate in Helping Skills in Human Relations program requirement change was unanimously approved.
4. Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum Ph.D. program requirement change was unanimously approved.
5. Library and Information Studies accelerated MLIS program requirement change was unanimously approved.
6. Literacy Specialist Graduate Certificate program requirement change was unanimously approved.
7. Social Work MSW program requirement change was unanimously approved.
8. Arts Management and Entrepreneurship Graduate Certificate proposal was unanimously approved.
9. Data Science and Analytics Graduate Certificate embedded certificate proposal was unanimously approved.
10. Environmental Science MES option addition (Hydrology and Water Security) and online delivery request were approved with ten votes in favor, one vote opposed.

## Discussion Item

- Dean Hewes proposed a policy change regarding the dual master's degree. The requirement for students to be in the first 12 credit hours of graduate study to enter a dual degree program will be removed. Both academic units must still give approval for a student to pursue a dual master's degree. In addition, a dual degree master's student must complete all degree requirements for both degrees within five calendar years. The proposed change was unanimously approved. The Graduate College Bulletin will be updated to reflect the change.

## Subcommittee Reports

Associate Dean Nancy LaGreca submitted the following report of the recent Academic Program Review Committee meeting:

- The Subcommittee conducted exit meetings with external evaluators for Aviation, Microbiology and Plant Biology, and Physics and Astronomy. We reviewed the unit self-study and supporting materials and met to develop questions for the Department of Biology. External evaluators for Biology will visit in spring 2018. Next steps (spring 2018) will include meeting with all the unit heads as well as preparing and finalizing reports and recommendations for the units.

Dr. Susan Burke provided the following information from the Faculty Senate Meeting on November 13, 2017:

- Dean Randy Hewes of the Graduate College reported on the finding of the Graduate Task Force on actions to address funding in graduate education at OU. Proposed actions include:
  - Set differential fee rates for undergraduate and graduate students
  - Over a 5-6 year period, lower graduate student fees to match those of peer institutions
  - Simultaneously raise resident graduate tuition rates to equal the drop in fees to keep the total tuition/fees the same for non-graduate assistants
  - Raise tuition remission rates on grant proposals
  - Raise the provost's minimum GA salary
- The Senate discussed repercussions to graduate education of federal tax bills currently under consideration, particularly the outcome of the legislation which would require graduate students to pay income tax on the value of their tuition waivers. The Senate has created an ad hoc committee to draft a resolution concerning this possibility. There was also mention of potential federal legislation that would affect the deferment of student loans, but little detail was discussed.

J. Quyen Wickham attended the Health Sciences Center Graduate Council meeting on November 16, 2017 and gave the following report:

- HSC is reviewing program review policies to better support program review at an institutional level.
- HSC Graduate Student Association has a regular representative at the meetings who reports on activities and efforts.
- New business included a brief discussion regarding a need to track graduate students post completion for programmatic reviews. In addition to efforts to maintain communication, they are considering digital platforms such as ORCID.

Dean Randy Hewes reported on the progress of the Graduate Faculty Membership Committee:

- The committee will review a draft of a set of guidelines to assist academic units with developing policies for determining tested experience, as well as a draft for an appeals policy for Faculty Membership appointments.

## **Course Modifications and Proposals**

The following course modifications and proposals have been 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, Linda Kelly, at 325-3106, if you wish to review any of these materials.

CEES 5953. Change in title and course description.  
CHEM 5001. Change in title.  
EDSP 5183. Change in prerequisites.  
GIS 5233. Change in course description and prerequisites.  
GIS 5953. Change in title and course description.  
ISE 5813. Change in title.  
LIS 5173. Change in title and course description.  
S WK 5083. Change in title and course description.  
S WK 5313. Change in title and course description.  
EDRG 5641. Course addition.  
GEOG 5123. Course addition.  
ILAC 6233. Course addition.  
LIS 5643. Course addition.  
S WK 5373. Course addition.  
S WK 5383. Course addition.  
S WK 5393. Course addition.  
S WK 5403. Course addition.  
S WK 5433. Course addition.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be January 17, 2018.

**DISTRIBUTION DATE:** December 8, 2017

For an electronic copy of these minutes and more information about the Graduate Council, please visit our website at:  
[http://www.ou.edu/content/gradweb/faculty\\_resources/graduate\\_council.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/gradweb/faculty_resources/graduate_council.html)