

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
September 4, 2019 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, Sherri Irvin, Jennifer Kisamore (via videoconference), Roksana Alavi, Susan Burke, Michael Engel, Eugenia Fuenzalida, Eric Heinze, Neil Houser, Patrick McCann, Sanna Pederson, Ken Petersen, Mirelsie Velazquez, Rienk Vermij, Charles Warnken

Absent: James Sluss, Mike Biggerstaff, Keri Kornelson

Guests: Janet Allen, Kirsten de Beurs, Danika Hines-Barnett, Shad Satterthwaite, Suresh Sharma, Laurel Smith, Sara Vaughan, Ying Zhang

Description of General Business

- Welcome to the new and returning council members.
- The membership for the Graduate Council standing committees was presented.
- The minutes from the May 1, 2019 council meeting were unanimously approved.

Program Modifications, Proposals, and Deletions

1. Economics PhD–program requirement change was unanimously approved.
2. Finance graduate certificate–program requirement change was unanimously approved.
3. Geography MA–program name change, option name change, and program requirement change were unanimously approved.
- 4a. Geography MS–program name change, option name change, and program requirement change were unanimously approved.
- 4b. Geography MS–concentration name change was unanimously approved.
5. Geospatial Technologies graduate certificate–program requirement change was unanimously approved.
6. Geography PhD–program name change, option name change, and program requirement change were unanimously approved.
7. Environmental Sustainability MSES–program deletion was unanimously approved.
8. Human Resource Studies MHRS–new program request was unanimously approved.
9. Industrial and Systems Engineering MS–program requirement change was unanimously approved.
10. Industrial and Systems Engineering PhD–program requirement change was unanimously approved.
11. Liberal Studies MA–program name change and option name change were unanimously approved.
12. Natural Gas Engineering and Management MS–program requirement change was unanimously approved.
13. Natural Gas Technology graduate certificate–program requirement change was unanimously approved.

Interdisciplinary Degree Program

- Student request for a change in committee membership on the Request for Change in Doctoral Advisory Conference Report was unanimously approved.

Discussion Items

- 2019 Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) Dissent Policy
 - Previously, when theses and dissertations were submitted in hard copy, a dissenting opinion was signaled by the absence of the committee member's signature from the title page. Now that we have transitioned to ETDs, no signatures appear on the title page. The Committee Page template graduate students are instructed to follow implies that all committee members have approved. We have no policy or mechanism to signal a dissenting opinion.
Practices that other institutions use in this situation were identified. After a thorough discussion of these practices, the council voted to approve the following: change the language on the Committee Page to indicate that the committee (as a body) approved, without the implication that each individual member approved.
- 2019 Second PhD Policy
 - Some applicants for our PhD programs already hold PhDs from other institutions, in the same or a different discipline. Some departments have expressed a desire to accept these applicants. Our practice has been that such applications are reviewed by the Dean of the Graduate College. We would like to have a clear policy in place that supplies guidance to academic units and prospective applicants and informs the Dean's review.
Policies at peer institutions were identified. After a thorough discussion of these policies, the council voted to adopt a policy to guide the Dean's decisions about whether to approve admissions for a second PhD: The University of Oklahoma generally discourages the admission of applicants who already hold a PhD to our PhD programs. Such admissions require the approval of the Dean of the Graduate College. The academic unit must recommend admission and explain (1) how the training the applicant would receive differs from the training they received in the prior PhD program, (2) how the professional prospects of the applicant will be improved by seeking a second PhD, and (3) why the applicant cannot receive appropriate training and professional development through a different mechanism, such as a master's program or postdoctoral appointment.
- Draft graduate faculty policy updates from the Graduate Faculty Membership Committee
 - This topic was tabled until the October meeting.

Reports

Dr. Ying Zhang from the Health Sciences Center discussed the following from the August 15, 2019 HSC Graduate Council meeting:

- Members discussed the Norman and OUHSC policy on the dissertation defense. The Graduate College may consider adding the following statement from the Norman Graduate College Bulletin regarding *Video or Telephone Participation in the Dissertation Defense*: "Nevertheless, the integrity and significance of the oral examination process must not be compromised by the absence of a sound committee."

Dr. Jennifer Kisamore, Associate Dean of the Tulsa Graduate College, offered the following:

- Interim President Harroz will hold a town hall meeting on September 25th.

Course Modifications, Proposals, and Deletions

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.

C S 4273. Change in prerequisites and course description.
EDAH 6013. Change in prerequisites.
EDPC 5913. Change in course number and credit hours.
EDPC 4413. Change in course designator.
EDSP 5413. Change in prerequisites.
EIPT 5183. Change in title, short title, and course description.
EIPT 6043. Change in prerequisites and semesters offered.
ENGB 5152. Change in prerequisites and semesters offered.
FIN 5332. Change in title, short title, prerequisites, and course description.
FIN 5382. Change in title, short title, and course description.
GEOG 6240. Change in title, short title, and prerequisites.
GEOL 5543. Change in course number, course description, credit hours, and schedule type.
GEOL 5733. Change in title, short title, and course description; removal of crosslisting.
LSIS 5463. Change in title and short title.
BME 5533. Course addition.
GEOG 5713. Course addition.
GEOL 5633. Course addition.
GEOL 6633. Course addition.
OCL 6813. Course addition.
OCL 6980. Course addition.
OCL 6990. Course addition.
P E 5633. Course addition.
P E 5663. Course addition.
P E 5673. Course addition.
P E 5683. Course addition.
P E 5693. Course addition.
P E 5723. Course addition.
P E 5733. Course addition.
B AD 5100. Course deletion.
B AD 5142. Course deletion.
B AD 5152. Course deletion.
B AD 5200. Course deletion.
GPHY 5733. Course deletion.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be October 2, 2019.

DISTRIBUTION DATE: September 6, 2019

For an electronic copy of these minutes and more information about the
Graduate Council, visit our website at:

<http://www.ou.edu/content/gradcollege/faculty-and-staff-resources/graduate-council.html>