

**Approved Minutes  
Graduate Council  
March 28, 2008  
University Club**

**Faculty Members Present:** D. Armstrong, J. Biese (for C. Grapczynski), V. Long, M. Luttenton, D. Ross, R. Smith-Colton, M. Staves, R. Wilson  
**Absent:** D. Cannon, C. Coviak, C. Grapczynski, P. Jorgensen, P. Ratliff-Miller

**Elected Student Representatives Present:** C. Teerling, K. Wildeboer

**Administrative Ex-Officio Present:** B. Cole, I. Fountain, N. Giardina, P. Kimboko, S. Lipnicki, J. Montag

**Ex-Officio Students Present:** G. Baraza

**Guest Present:** E. Eldridge, C. McCurren

**I. Call to Order**

M. Luttenton called the meeting to order 9:07 AM.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**Action:** R. Wilson moved to approve the agenda after reordering the items to allow for C. McCurren's discussion of the DNP Final Plan. M. Staves seconded. Agenda approved.

**III. DNP Discussion**

C. McCurren addressed GC members concerns with regard to the status of the MSN once the DNP is implemented. The MSN program will continue with a generalist focus, and some of the curriculum for the MSN will be foundation coursework for the DNP. Students may convert from the MSN program to the DNP if they want to be specialized in advanced practice.

C. McCurren explained the background and rationale for creating a DNP program. The DNP will be the new standard by 2015. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing mandated that advanced practice nursing be moved to the doctoral level. This move would impact the American health care system in a positive way.

Advanced practice courses are coming through curriculum for review. Nursing students who have not finished their programs yet will likely be doing their practicum by the time the reconfigured courses are put in place for the DNP. Students who choose generalist MSN degree will not be disadvantaged if they pursue the DNP after finishing their MSN.

The program proposes to add four faculty members. The DNP program's capacity is 65 students. GVSU's DNP program will compete with Oakland University, and UM Detroit

(Flint) and Wayne State, which have proposals in process. Nationwide, there are 60 current DNP programs and another 140 in planning stages.

C. McCurren addressed concerns about gaps in delivery of programs. Anyone starting the MSN this year must finish by summer 2011. If the generalist masters program is approved, it could start in Fall 2009. There might be a year where no new masters students are admitted while the old program winds down and when new MSN begins.

The program will be marketed beyond the Grand Rapids area and it is hoped to draw the attention of the Midwest Nursing Research Society when KCON attends the next conference.

GC members had concerns about tuition support for students. Graduate assistantships offer some support, but not enough to compete with other universities. HRSA provides funding to GVSU for nurse traineeships. There is also federal funding to support people pursuing doctorates who plan to assume a faculty role. While the DNP is practice-based, those with a DNP can still teach. Funding opportunities from the University Development office and the west Michigan community can be explored.

It was noted that area hospitals support research projects because insurance companies will pay for outcomes studies, so they may want to collaborate with GVSU on this program.

M. Luttenton requested a motion to approve the DNP Final Plan based on the recommendation of the Graduate Council Curriculum Subcommittee.

**Action:** D. Armstrong moved to untable the motion to approve the DNP Final Plan from the last GC meeting on March 28, 2008, and to approve the DNP Final Plan. R. Wilson seconded. Motion was untabled.

The GC continued its discussion. Some GC members were concerned about the status of the MSN once the DNP is implemented. However, the MSN is a separate issue and an MSN program change will need to go through the curriculum process at a later date.

**Action:** M. Luttenton called the question to approve the DNP Final Plan. Motion passed. The DNP Final Plan was approved.

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

**Action:** M. Staves moved to approve the minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of March 14, 2008, with corrections. K. Wildeboer seconded. Minutes approved.

#### **V. Report of the Chair**

M. Luttenton reported that he and R. Wilson attended ECS to answer questions about the GA policy. R. Franciosi asked for the policy to be separate from the functions and procedures. The policy will be published in the Faculty Handbook, and the procedures will be available on the GSGA website.

The Grad Directors reviewed the Graduate Faculty Policy draft and there were some concerns from those in the health professions with regard to the “scholarship” requirement. Programs such as PT, OT, and PAS have different needs for faculty teaching on the clinical side. It was suggested that the draft include language that encompasses the Boyer model. CHP Grad Directors were also concerned about chairing thesis committees as they have a very limited number of faculty. The draft will be revised and will probably not be ready for ECS review until the end of the semester.

## **VI. Report of the Dean**

### **Enrollment Management**

P. Kimboko attended vendor software demonstrations for Graduate Admissions systems. The new electronic features were to be in place by Fall 2008, but this may be moved to Fall 2009 because of the complexity of the changes that would need to be made.

### **Graduate Communication Team**

The committee collected admissions letters from each program. The Registrar’s office will begin sending letters to students whose transcripts do not show that a degree has been awarded.

### **Catalog Committee**

Preliminary revisions are being made to the current catalog in terms of the flow of information. Some changes will be made for the print version, and more extensive versions for the online catalog.

### **Special Project GAs**

Thirty one requests for special project GAs were received. There is funding for twenty four. P. Kimboko would like the salary rate to be reviewed. The last review was done in 2003.

### **Dean’s Citations for Academic Excellence**

Please send nominations to P. Kimboko. She would like nominees in all emphases. She clarified that the Graduate Dean’s Citations are a different award from the Student Scholarship Day departmental awards.

### **Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week**

National Graduate and Professional Students Appreciation Week begins today and runs through next Friday. Faculty and staff are encouraged to do something to recognize graduate students. The Lanthorn recently carried two front page articles on graduate issues.

## **VIII. Report of the Curriculum Subcommittee**

As noted in the GC-CC minutes of March 14, 2008, the subcommittee reviewed and approved seven course proposals with modifications. It was noted that some of the documents were basic course changes, but because they are related to a new program

they required a full review. Otherwise, if a basic course change can be posted for 30 days for comments.

**Action:** M. Staves moved to approve the GC-CC minutes of March 14, 2008. Minutes approved.

### **VII. Report of the Policy Subcommittee**

R. Wilson reported that the GC-PC continued to work on a number of policies simultaneously.

### **VIII. Report of GPSA**

K. Wildeboer reported that she presented at the Midwest Regional Council of NAGPS. She was asked to continue as publicity subcommittee chair for NAGPS, but declined. She noted that the conference was an opportunity to interact with many grad students from other universities and this serves as a reminder as to how large a graduate student population GVSU has.

GPSA announced a call for nominations for officers for the 08-09 academic year.

There is an open meeting for all graduate students with President Haas next Tuesday, April 1, at 5 PM in the University Club.

S. Lipnicki noted that the graduate student survey results are available. There were 1,087 responses.

### **IX. Old Business**

J. Montag addressed the new prerequisite tracking procedures. The switch was made on March 17<sup>th</sup>. He will send reports for the college deans to let them know who was approved for overrides. M. Staves noted that there were difficulties with students taking temporary courses such as 680. There are a number of 680 courses with different topics, but the system will not allow students to register for more than one. J. Montag would like those with issues such as this to email him with the details, and to note that there are no paper forms in use except for dual enrollment.

### **X. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Minutes approved at Graduate Council meeting of April 11, 2008.