

**Graduate Council
January 15, 2010
303C DEV
Approved Minutes**

Faculty Present: D. Armstrong, S. Borders, A. Bostrom, D. Cannon, N. Diarrasouba, P. Jorgensen, V. Long, M. Luttenton, R. Smith-Colton, M. Staves, R. Wilson

Absent: W. Boeve

Administrative Ex-Officio Present: C. Bajema, M. Cimitile, B. Cole, I. Fountain, T. James-Heer, S. Lipncki, J. Montag, J. Stevenson

Guest: J. Guevara

Elected Students Present: A. Crosby, C. Torri

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/DECISION
I. Call to Order	M. Luttenton opened the meeting at 9:11 AM.	
II. Approval of Agenda		Motion: M. Staves moved to approve the agenda. D. Cannon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
III. Approval of Minutes	A GC member requested a change to J. Montag's statement on page five to indicate that it is the Registrar's opinion that the current admissions process is working.	Motion: P. Jorgensen moved to approve the minutes with the change to J. Montag's statement. N. Diarrasouba seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
IV. Report of the Chair-M. Luttenton	M. Luttenton reported that he met with FPPC about the graduate faculty policy before the holiday break.	
V. Report of the Dean-J. Stevenson	J. Stevenson reported on the deans' retreat. He made a presentation on graduate education and the graduate faculty policy draft. The grad faculty policy should be in place by 2011 per the strategic	

	<p>vision. There is a plan to create a work group of academic deans to work on the policy and differentiate compensation and workload issues. He noted that the Provost supports the policy and some deans would like to make the criteria harder. As the GC works on strategic vision issues, he would like Julie Guevara to participate.</p> <p>Michigan Graduate Education Week is April 12-16. Adelma Huntley, the graduate dean at Appalachian State, will be the keynote at the grad luncheon on Monday, April 12th at noon in EC. We will also hold a breakfast with an informal consultation with the Graduate Council, deans, and Provost, at CHS at 8:00 AM on April 12th. The Michigan graduate deans will meet in February. They strategized at GCS to be more proactive of lobbying the legislature, considering the state budget issues. Selected graduate students will give a poster presentation at the capital on Tuesday, April 13th. GC members were asked to consider students who can showcase their work in areas that have an impact on Michigan's economy.</p> <p>Faculty workload and culture will be challenging to the grad faculty policy. There may be opposition when the policy is implemented.</p> <p>Two smaller initiatives are coming forward with Julie Guevara's involvement: 1) an evaluation of graduate level instruction, and 2) reciprocal evaluation of GAs. Students evaluate their assistantship experience, and the supervisor/mentor evaluates their performance. The intent is to ensure that GAs are being used appropriately because of the budget. University administration recognizes these as positive for faculty development.</p> <p>The graduate dean position has 40 applicants. The deadline is today. The search committee has been selected, with the Provost as chair.</p>	
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<p>VI. Report of the Policy Subcommittee – V. Long</p>	<p>The GC-PC planned to have a meeting with faculty governance leadership to discuss where GC-PC should focus, to align more with the strategic plan and vision. A plan to increase the number of full time faculty is on the GC-PC’s agenda for next Friday, the provisional/conditional admissions policy will be going to the full GC for action. The proposal should have scenarios that have actually occurred to illustrate the need. Each grad program can have its own higher standards that are clear and articulated.</p>	
<p>VII. Report of the Curriculum Subcommittee – M. Staves</p>	<p>The GC-CC met with Andrew Topper, Julie Guevara, and M. Cimitile to discuss the COE online program in educational technology proposal. Two motions passed: 1) to waive the prospectus to a final plan, and 2) to forward it to the full Graduate Council for a vote.</p>	
<p>VIII. Report of GPSA – A. Crosby/S. Lipnicki</p>	<p>The next GPSA meeting is in two weeks. S. Lipnicki announced the Grad Club, which is a pilot program between GPSA, Grad Studies, Pew Student Services, and Career Services. Every Wednesday at 5 PM the Uclub is the grad club. The purpose is to create a space where grad students can stop in before or after class and meet other grad students and grad faculty. Refreshments are available. The first one will end at 7:00 PM, but after that it will run until 8:00 PM to catch students going on break. There will be programming with Career Services, to bring employers. Flyers and announcements have gone out, and should be on GVSU Twitter and Facebook.</p>	
<p>IX. New Business –</p>	<p>A. Graduate Council Vote on COE Online Program GC members discussed the COE proposal. Some members have concerns regarding adjuncts teaching courses. Points made included: this model should be more cost-effective than the Harvard model. One tenure-track professor will use a common curriculum and stay in an oversight role. If the program grows, new sections will need to</p>	

	<p>be covered, which could lead to a disproportionate number of sections taught by adjuncts. Then, the ratio of adjuncts to professors would increase.</p> <p>Per M. Cimitile, the university is creating a subcommittee for oversight of online programs, which will be allowed at grad level only. It will include oversight of all courses, with a faculty development mechanism to meet the faculty criteria. There will also be a web page that addresses needs of online students, and change made to the Faculty Handbook.</p> <p>R. Wilson and D. Armstrong commented in support of the program. The program has already been in place as a traditional program with some online courses, so the proposal would just be moving the whole program online. The State of Michigan has a new requirement that all k-12 students take at least one online course during their academic career. Faculty teaching the courses are proficient in technology. If students have limited proficiency they have the option of taking the traditional program.</p> <p>S. Borders expressed concerns about the NCA's standards for accreditation. He noted that the NCA had been reprimanded by the US Dept. of Education for accrediting a substandard program at another college. Per M. Cimitile, the structures being put in place for online programs at GVSU are driven not only by NCA standards but by the internal GVSU community to ensure accountability.</p> <p>The registrar supports the online degree, noting that students are looking for more online courses to finish their degree or to start one.</p> <p>The NCA will look at the graduate dean's role in oversight of faculty qualifications for online programs.</p>	
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	<p>Some GC members have concerns about the coaching model. Currently, the term “coach” is not used in academic roles at GVSU. The academic coach is from the Harvard model. The role is as a class coordinator that oversees instructors, and the coaches must meet the same quality as other adjunct faculty. However, the capstone/project will need to be overseen by a regular faculty member. Everyone in instructional roles will have credentials and the pedagogical expertise to maximize best practices in the online model</p> <p>M. Luttenton noted that many of same questions and issues were raised the first time he saw the proposal in 2007. His concern is that waiving the prospectus to a Final Plan means that some issues will be left unanswered. D. Armstrong suggested that the coaching model could be taken out as some GC members are opposed to it.</p> <p>B. Enrollment/Grading J. Montag thanked the faculty for their efforts to submit fall grades on time. He noted that enrollment has increased 4.3% for the Winter '10 semester over last year. There's an overall increase of 2.6%. He offered additional thanks for the efforts with phone calling.</p>	<p>Motion: D. Cannon moved to waive the COE Prospectus for an online program in educational technology to a Final Plan, with a caveat that the section on coaches is clarified and adjunct faculty meet the standards of the adjunct faculty policy. P. Jorgensen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Motion: R. Wilson moved to approve the Final Plan to go forward to ECS, with the noted caveats. D. Cannon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>X. Old Business-</p>	<p>Graduate Faculty Policy The policy continues to be revised and it will come to the full Graduate Council again for review. The biggest change right now is that the term “faculty engaged in graduate education” has been changed to “graduate faculty.”</p>	
<p>XI. Adjournment</p>		<p>Motion: P. Jorgensen moved to adjourn. M. Staves seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.</p>

Minutes unanimously approved at the Graduate Council meeting on February 19, 2010