**Graduate Council Meeting**

**October 23, 2015**

**203D DEV**

**Minutes
(approved on 1/22/16)**

**Faculty Present:**  D. Balfour, J. Barry, A. Booth, A. Bostrom, S. Choudhuri, M. Harris, L. Huang, F. Kraft, M. Luttenton, B. Martin, D. Mitchell, P. Ratliff-Miller, L. Sheehan, M. Staves

**Administrative Ex-Officio Present:** B. Cole, I. Fountain, T. James-Heer, S. Lipnicki, J. Potteiger, S. Soman, J. Stevenson

**Ex-Officio Students Present**: J. Lawton, B. Showerman

**GSA Officers Present:** S. Eslamian**,** L. Presutti, F. Lawrence, N. Zweifel

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| **AGENDA ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **ACTION/DECISION** |
|  **I. Call to Order**  | M. Luttenton called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.  |  |
| **II. Approval of Agenda**  |  | **Motion:** M. Staves moved to approve the agenda. A. Booth seconded. Motion passed unanimously.  |
| **III. Approval of Minutes – September 25, 2015** | The minutes were not available for review.  |  |
| **IV. Chair’s Report – M. Luttenton** | The Graduate Academic Policy on Project, Thesis, and Dissertation Credits is on the ECS agenda today.  |  |
| **V. Curriculum Subcommittee Report – M. Staves**  | The Doctor of Audiology proposals are being reviewed and the GC-CC plans to have the author attend an upcoming meeting to discuss the program.  |  |
| **VI. Policy Subcommittee Report – A. Booth** | Award of Two or More Graduate Degrees at the Same LevelThis policy was formerly “the award of two or more master’s degrees” but needs revision to include all graduate degrees. The credit hours to complete a degree vary by degree program, thus a percentage should be used rather than a stated number of credits. This policy is intended for students who want to complete 2 degrees. If the degrees are done sequentially, the student would complete 100% of the first degree and a percentage of the second degree, and the 8-year time limit would still apply. Sixty-percent was discussed but there were concerns that this would not be enough. The primary issue is to determine the percentage that would protect the integrity of both degrees. This policy sets a minimum, but GPDs and programs can establish higher percentages. Courses that could count toward both degrees, e.g. electives need to be accounted for as well. This is where currency and competency need to be considered. The policy should include the statement that all stated requirements are met for each degree.GC members would like the policy to require 100% of one degree program because it is the university’s responsibility to ensure the integrity of the degree program. GC members should email A. Booth with additional comments. Graduate Academic Policy on Combined Degree ProgramsThe previous policy applied to bachelor’s/master’s programs but is being revised to include master’s/doctorates. Combined degree programs must be approved as such through the curriculum approval process, thus individual programs have the autonomy to decide if they want to be part of a combined degree program or not. Section 3, b.i. and b.ii speak to undergraduate/graduate and graduate/graduate degrees respectively but this needs to be clear, and there were concerns that some programs would not be able to fit the criteria with higher percentages. Some GC members suggested 60% as a minimum. Other suggestions were to establish a minimum percentage for the lower degree and require the total of the higher degree, or establish a percentage of credits regardless of degree. When creating combined programs, the programs need to ensure that students will meet any licensing requirements of the higher level program. The policy should include a statement that combined degree programs should be designed to protect the integrity of both degrees. |  |
| **VII. GSA Report –L. Presutti/N. Zweifel** | The standing committee seats have all been filled. The GSA website has been updated with the names and photos of all GSA representatives. This year, the GSA officers are working to hold the student members more accountable so they are required to report back to the GSA e-board about committee activities. They are also working on building connections with the RSO’s and solidifying mandatory attendance at the GSA funding board meetings. There is an appeal process for RSO’s that do not attend. Some RSO’s have not updated their information on Orgsync so they are not eligible for funding until this has been done. The GSA bylaws are being updated. There is a long term goal to have GSA participate on ECS. Other initiatives include getting graduate student space such as a grad commons and to build a strong relationship with the Student Senate president.  |  |
| **VIII. Dean’s Report – J. Stevenson** | Graduate School Name ChangeOGS is working on a list of areas where the name will be changed online and elsewhere. The change will take place with the beginning of the Winter Semester. Associate Dean SearchTwo finalists have been selected to interview with the search committee on November 9 and to do an open presentation to the Graduate Council, graduate faculty, students, and staff. Presentations will occur on November 13 and November 20 in 203D DEV. The subcommittees will meet as usual at 9 AM on November 13 and then get together for the 10 AM presentation. November 20 is a full Graduate Council meeting so the GC will meet at 9 AM and then the room will be open at 10:00 to others to attend the second finalist’s presentation. The new associate dean will be selected by November 30th. Grad Exit SurveyJ. Potteiger will present the graduate exit survey at UAS on December 11. Beginning Monday, October 26, J. Potteiger and J. Stevenson will meet with graduate student focus groups to gather further input on the two areas of the survey that receive lower rankings, advising/mentoring and help with employment. MyPath for Graduate StudentsAll the graduate audits have been built into MyPath. GPDs were invited to log in and to review the information in MyPath to ensure that it matches the practice. Because of the recent intrusion attempts, security measures have been implemented so there are a few steps to log in. J. Potteiger thanked S. Soman and her staff for their efforts. 2016-17 Graduate TuitionA change in the tuition amount paid by grad students that is not dependent on the student’s residence status is under consideration. If approved, in academic year 2016-17, all graduate students will pay the same rate per program. This will also apply to non-degree seeking students.  |  |
| **IX. New Business**  | MAGS 3-Minute Thesis CompetitionMAGS is holding a 3-minute master’s thesis competition for students who have completed a master’s thesis to present at the competition in Chicago in April 2016. OGS will host our own 3-minute thesis competition to select a student to participate at the MAGS competition. Details need to be finalized, e.g., getting a panel together, advertising the event, recruiting students to participate, and so on. The selected student will have their registration paid for by MAGS and GSA/GVSU will provide travel funds. MAGS Thesis CompetitionThe thesis review committee is meeting this afternoon to select the thesis to submit to the MAGS thesis competition. Graduate Research SymposiumUniversity of Toledo is hosting the 7th Annual Graduate Student Association Midwest Graduate Research Symposium on April 9, 2016. It is a multidisciplinary symposium which aims to promote graduate student researchers and provide opportunities for collaboration, networking, and professional development. OGS would like to provide resources and cost-share with GSA and possibly CSCE to send students to Toledo. Details are being worked out.  |  |
| **X. Adjournment** |  | **Motion:** J. Barry moved to adjourn. A. Bostrom seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM.  |