

**Unofficial Minutes (no quorum)
Graduate Council
April 13, 2007**

Faculty Members Present: D. Cannon, C. Coviak, C. Grapczynski, M. Staves, R. Wilson

Absent: D. Armstrong, S. Berlin, L. Blose, M. Luttenton, P. Parker, D. Ross, C. Standridge

Elected Student Representatives Present: R. Rogers, K. Wildeboer

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

Absent: C. Bajema, W. Widmaier

Guest: P. Leidig

I. Call to Order

D. Cannon called the meeting to order at 9:44 AM. He noted that there were not eight voting members of GC present for a quorum, therefore, voting on agenda items will be postponed until the next GC meeting.

Curriculum Item

Discussion: The GC discussed Log 6166, a program change requesting a new certificate in Bioinformatics. This is a 3-course certificate. P. Leidig presented rationale for the title of the program; the title is to differentiate this program from the medical and bioinformatics degree; the program is for computer science students who want a biomedical application, focusing on the computing side, e.g., generating data rather than interpreting it. Currently no standard title for this type of program exists at other institutions. This program proposal was created in response to CIS students wanting a more medical/bioinformatics focus. There are many qualified faculty to teach the program.

GC members were concerned with how the certificate would be represented on transcripts, and how employers would recognize the CIS-focus of the program. Currently CIS offers an internal certificate track that is not recognized on the transcript.

Regarding courses, 661 is a background course with a focus on CIS. Many students in the program want to take medical bioinformatics courses as electives. Currently the CIS dept. has to approve each graduation audit individually to approve CIS 677 as an elective. This will continue to be done.

The program needs to be offered as a certificate rather than an emphasis because an emphasis would require more courses. P. Leidig noted that the cap on enrollment in 661 is 30 students. However, the problem with offering the course is not the cap, but the lack

of classrooms. Leidig noted that the 500 foundations courses are required for anyone entering the CIS program without a background in informatics or computer science.

Action: M. Staves motioned to temporarily adjourn the Graduate Council meeting and reconvene the GC-CC. C. Coviak seconded. The full Graduate Council adjourned and reconvened after the GC-CC meeting.

II. Report of the Chair

D. Cannon sent the recently submitted COE course change, which proposed to shorten a course from 15 weeks to 2 weeks, back to the author as it did not require GC-CC action.

D Cannon will present an annual report on the Grad Council on Monday night.

The MS in Safety Management prospectus has been withdrawn.

GC members discussed the grievance process for proposal authors who are not satisfied with the outcome of their proposal reviews. Those submitting proposals should go through the faculty governance process. One of the difficulties with the safety management proposal was that the author did not demonstrate a need for the program. However, it had been understood in the past that the prospectus did not require a needs assessment. It would be reasonable to include this in a prospectus. The Final Plan would be further developed to include course descriptions, student competence measurements, and so on. A needs assessment would then be included in the Final Plan. N. Giardina will meet with Eric VanFleet regarding his concerns. She noted that the language in the faculty handbook needs to be changed. The governance process needs to address the matter.

N. Giardina announced that improvements have been made to the online curriculum system. The system will now track recommendations, amendment requests, and so on. Anyone can view these rather than just the author. Other problems such as typos, page formatting problems, and so on, can be viewed on the online system.

III. Report of the Dean

P. Kimboko reminded GC about the Graduate Student Celebration on April 20th, beginning at 5:30 PM. GC members are encouraged to attend.

P. Kimboko attended the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Conference in Indianapolis.

Casey Bartman, M.D., from Computer Information Systems, has been selected as the outstanding thesis award recipient.

Meeting concluded at 11:58 AM.

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