**Graduate Council Meeting**

**February 26, 2021**

**Virtual**

**Minutes   
Approved 3/26/21**

**Faculty Present**: Andrea Bostrom, Wendy Burns-Ardolino, Shabbir Choudhuri, Xiang Ciao, Barbara Harvey, Monica Harris, Jon Jeffryes, Rich Jelier, Courtney Karasinski, Rui Niu-Cooper, Karen Ozga, Jennifer Pope, Paulette Ratliff-Miller, Mark Staves, Joel Wendland-Liu, Michelle Wooddell

**Administrative Ex-Officio Present:** Irene Fountain, Mark Luttenton, Jennifer Palm, Jeffrey Potteiger, Ellen Schendel

**Graduate Student Association:** John T. Jones

**Ex-Officio Students Present:** Amanda Filkins,Maggie Scannell

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| **AGENDA ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **ACTION/DECISION** |
| **I. Call to Order – A. Bostrom** | A. Bostrom called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM. |  |
| **II. Approval of Agenda – A. Bostrom** |  | **Motion:** M. Staves moved to approve the agenda. W. Burns-Ardolino seconded. Motion passed unanimously. |
| **III. Approval of Minutes January 22, 2021– A. Bostrom** | Corrections were made to the draft minutes regarding the title of the new unit and clarifying the departments that will be housed in the new unit. The draft minutes were revised prior to this meeting. | **Motion:** M. Wooddell moved to approve. J. Pope seconded. Motion passed unanimously. |
| **IV. Chair’s Report – A. Bostrom** | a. Nominations for Chair  Nominations for Chair were:  A. Campbell, nominated by W. Burns-Ardolino seconded by M. Staves C. Karasinski, nominated by R. Niu-Cooper, seconded by P. Ratliff-Miller (Karasinski withdrew)  Nominations for Vice-Chair were: W. Burns-Ardolino, nominated by M. Staves.  A Qualtrics survey will be sent to voting members to vote on the nominations.  Subcommittee chairs will be nominated at the last meeting in April after colleges hold their elections.  b. Vice-Provost for Graduate and Lifetime Learning  A. Bostrom met with Kara Van Dam and the ECS Chair and Vice Chair. The meeting was productive and it was noted that K. Van Dam has many connections to GVSU and a strong commitment to the university. She will be invited to attend a Graduate Council and a GC-EC meeting.  The Graduate School will remain the same for the foreseeable future.  K. Van Dam has a background in retention and graduation and has worked in distance learning with the military.  Students have many more options regarding enrollment in graduate education than previously and competition is worldwide, so staying competitive is an ongoing challenge.  A. Bostrom has a new program meeting coming up. No other details were provided. |  |
| **V. Curriculum & Program Review Subcommittee Report – M. Staves** | a. Reading Program Review Team Report  The draft team report was sent to the Reading program director and no corrections in errors of fact were needed.  J. Potteiger thanked M. Staves and the GC-CPR members who worked on the team report.  b. Log 11489: Program Change Request-MSOT/DROT  This is the first combined degree program combining a master’s degree with a doctorate.  c. Log 11492: New Certificate Program-Data Analytics Badge  GC members discussed issues surrounding badges. Admissions requirements and prerequisite requirements still apply. There are concerns about stackable badges, that potentially a student could earn a series of badges and complete a degree without having been admitted to a graduate program. Students must be admitted as a non-degree seeking student to complete a badge, and the program may restrict the badge to degree-seeking only. | **Motion:** The GC-CPR motion and second to approve the Reading Program Review Team report passed unanimously.  **Motion:** The GC-CPR motion and second to approve Log 11489 passed unanimously.  **Motion:** The GC-CPR motion and second to approve Log 11492 passed unanimously. |
| **VI. Policy Subcommittee Report – S. Choudhuri** | The GC-PC is working on badge policies, graduate policies like dual enrollment, and language used in programs.  Previously, if a student met certain criteria they could take a graduate course and apply it to their undergraduate degree or save it for a future graduate degree. Policies are being reviewed regarding badges and stacking micro-credentials to work on appropriate language.  Terminology used in programs that seem to mean the same thing, like emphasis, concentration, and track, are being defined.  The GC-PC is working on a survey regarding workload issues. J. Jeffryes noted that several external reviewer reports for grad program reviews made recommendations regarding faculty workload. These recommendations may be useful to the GC-PC.  Revisions to the thesis/dissertation policies have improved the quality of theses/dissertations. |  |
| **VII. Graduate Student Association Report – J. Jones** | The third career readiness workshop was held last week. One hundred thirty students registered and 40 attended virtually.  The GSA is still working on GSA officer elections. Graduate Council members were asked to encourage students to participate.  The GSA president and vice president will meet soon with Dean Rullman, Dean Potteiger, and Provost Cimitile to discuss student governance and how graduate student associations are handled at peer institutions.  The GSA’s use of its funding has been limited to virtual conferences so the GSA may consider ways to spend some of the monies, as there is concern that there could be cuts next year. The GSA could use some funds to put together videos to help recruit students into leadership positions. The GSA is also looking at updating the GSA brand with a new logo.  Graduate Council members were asked to encourage their students to apply for funding to conferences. |  |
| **VIII. Dean’s Report – J. Potteiger** | a. 3-MT Competition J. Potteiger recognized TGS staff for their work on the 3-MT competition. The winners were: 1st Place-Darby Disselkoen, Nursing, 2nd Place-Mary Chenge, Nursing, 3rd Place-Megan Sanders, Biology, and Hana Christofferson, Biology.  b. Grad Showcase The 2021 Grad Showcase will be virtual. The announcement went out to GPDs today to nominate students to create presentations. They will be asked to record a video which will be posted online. Nominations are due March 22 and the entries will be ready for viewing approximately April 13.  c. Graduate Student Mental Health Task Force Meghan Fox from Athletic Training and Ray Higbea from Health Administration are co-chairs. There are 14 members that include a mix of faculty and students from different programs and campuses. They have developed seven charges. One charge is to offer video resources/training for faculty and students. The GSA could potentially partner on this to cover costs.  The task force will meet through the Winter semester, put resources together over the summer, and in the Fall continue a working group. J. Jeffryes offered library resources.  d. COE/CCPS Merger The merger is moving forward. There will not likely be changes to governance representation in 2021-22. The reps from CCPS and COE will remain in place. After next year, representation will change.  e. Dual Listed Courses There was discussion about dual-listed undergraduate/graduate courses at the last GPD meeting. GPDs want there to be a way to determine that a student is ready for a graduate course if they are an undergraduate. There could be issues if a graduate course has considerable undergraduate enrollment as this could change how the course is presented. The quality of the graduate courses and programs needs to be maintained. |  |
| **IX. Old Business** | There was no old business. |  |
| **X. New Business** | There was no new business. |  |
| **XI. Adjournment** |  | **Motion:** M. Staves moved toadjourn. W. Burns-Ardolino seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM. |