Graduate Faculty Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 01, 2015, 4-5 pm

Minutes

Members (16): Andrew Storer (SFRES), Simon Carn (Geo), Kari Henquinet (PCorps), Qinghui Chen (Kines), Craig Friedrich (MEEM), Judith Perlinger (Atmos), Ashutosh Tiwari (Chem), Zhenlin Wang (CompSci), Alex Guth (DataSci), Feng Zhao (BioEng), Tom Merz (BusAdm), Tim Eisele (ChemEng), Kelly Steelman (CogSci), Jiguang Sun (Math), Eugene Levin (SOT), Ebenezer Tumban (Bio)

Guests (7): Debra Charlesworth (Grad Sch), Nancy Byers Sprague (Grad Sch), Heather Suokas (Grad Sch), Brian Barkdoll (Senate), Annelise Doll (Lib), Chelsea Nikula (GSG), Jacque Smith (Grad Sch.)

1) Meeting called to order at 4:02 pm.

2) Review and approval of 04/07/15 meeting minutes.

3) Old Business:
   a. Graduate Faculty Review Guidelines (A. Storer)
      • Proposal passed at last meeting, pending minor editorial changes. New dean or current associate dean will have to take this to the Senate. Proposal implements a practice that will help to ensure that current policy (in Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty Handbook) is followed. As with all policies and procedures any change to an individual’s status will be addressed through due process. New dean and/or associate dean should codify exact process that will be used and communicate it to this group once the proposal is reviewed and, if necessary, approved by the Senate.
         o Question - is it true to say that basically this is in anticipation of rare occurrences? Answer: Yes.
         o Question – will there be a straightforward form to fill out? Answer: Yes.
         o Question – So, when this goes to the senate it will be proposing a mechanism to enact an existing policy? Answer: Yes.
   b. Proposal for Undergraduate and Graduate Certificate Guidelines (D. Charelsworth)
      • There was a proposal last year passed by the Senate to create what is called Post Degree Certificates. It is really meant to be Post Baccalaureate. So both the graduate certificates and these certificates can now only be earned after earning an undergraduate degree. Post Baccalaureate and Post Degree Certificates consist of 2000 to 4000 level courses. They are seen as an additional undergraduate concentration but they can’t be earned until a degree is earned. Some of them may go away and be replaced with minors. Graduate certificates on the other hand are at a higher course numbering level. Over the summer we learned that graduate students are not eligible to earn the post baccalaureate certificates, which was mis-advertised on our website and will be corrected. Also, changes need to be made to the undergraduate application because as of right now if you want to get a certificate in these post baccalaureate or post degree areas there is no way for a student now to apply. Clarification is needed and there may not be a need for another set of proposals.
c. Chair Election: A call for nominations was sent out on April 7, 2015. A. Storer was nominated.
   - Andrew Storer is willing to serve. No other nominees. Storer elected unanimously.

4) New Business:
   a. The Graduate Faculty Council has to elect seven tenure track faculty members to the graduate dean search Committee: two from COE, two from CSA, one from SBE, one from SFRES, and one from SOT. Those elected: Sean Kirkpatrick, Judith Perliger, Susie Amato-Henderson, Chandrashekhar Joshi, Robert Hutchinson, Christopher Webster. No nominees from SOT. Motion approved that if a single candidate is nominated for the SOT, the GFC will automatically elect that person to serve and will only vote if there are two or more nominees from SOT.
   b. Call for input. Chair Storer requests that members of the GFC provide input on agenda items or topics of interest for future meetings.

5) Motion to adjourn at 4:39 pm.