Graduate Committee Minutes

9-16-15

Approval of minutes from 9-9-15

Walsh-Childers moved that the minutes from 9-9-15 be approved as written. Molleda seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Interest Communication Distance Proposal

The revisions to Christiano’s PIC proposal were discussed and the Committee would like the following items addressed—

* The Committee would like to see evidence that the program will be successful, so the Committee would like Christiano to do a Qualtrics (suggested) survey with her 4,000 person listserv asking them several questions, among them, their behavioral intent in enrolling, how likely they would be to take the individual courses listed, etc.  Additionally the Committee was asking for secondary data sources, such as the report that Juan Carlos used for his
* Clarification on when and how the electives will be developed
* Committee felt the timeline was optimistic and should be revisited
* Discuss the proposed rotation of electives
* Revisit the requirement that the students attend frank.   Questions centered around the difficulty this might present and potential to limit enrollment:
* What if they can’t make it?
* What if they can’t afford to come?
* Could a substitute like a webinar or Skype work?
* Would there be an alternative offered?  A make up?
* Could you set up some substitute activities around frank?
* Suggestion was made to contact the Business School to determine procedures, option, etc., on similar programs.  However, the concern was raised that they have many options, not just one.
* Describe Course Accessibility Service

A Committee member asked where the money is coming from to start the program. Molleda mentioned that he received a $20,000 loan from Distance Education for his startup.

Goodman suggested there shouldn’t be a huge list of electives offered each semester, they should be rotated. Additional electives will be offered as the program grows.

It was mentioned that enrolling three students in a class pays for the instructor. Programs charge different rates for classes.

Certificate Admissions Criteria revisited

It was suggested that for future admission decision appeals, student will be asked to submit a statement of goals and letters of recommendation for review. This policy won’t be advertised but if the need arises, it can be used.

International Student selection

Committee members emailed their choices to Treise.

Update on MA program

The proposal goes to Graduate Council tomorrow (9-17-15), then to the Provost.

It was suggested that the name of the degree should be Master of Arts in Media and Communication (MAMC) to avoid any conflict with other departments on campus using the word “Communication” in their degree. The Master’s task force had agreed on the title, “Master of Arts in Communication (M.A.C.). Treise will follow up on this suggestion.

ATTENDING: Treise, Ostroff, Babanikos, Kelleher, Goodman, Spiker, Walsh-Childers, Molleda, Ferguson, Selepak and Hedge.