**GRADUATE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**9-28-2017**

**Approval of Minutes**

Prior to approval of the 8-31-17 minutes, there was discussion regarding the proposed new statistics requirement for doctoral students. Treise said it will be revisited before going to the graduate faculty. Perhaps instead of “requiring” 15 credits in the methods section, it would be worded as “strongly recommend.” Kelleher moved to approve the minutes from 8-31-17, Ostroff seconded, passed unanimously.

**Scheduling Classes**

Brief discussion of the College Room Scheduling system. It was suggested the topic should be discussed at Deans and Chairs. Perhaps the solution to the scheduling problem is to have the classes roll over from one year to the next instead of needing to reenter all classes each term.

**Outstanding Doctoral Mentor Award**

Treise read the list of professors who are eligible for the Doctoral Mentor Award—Ferguson, Morris, Morton-Padovano, Treise (removed herself from the list), Walsh-Childers, and Wanta. Discussion followed and Jon Morris was selected unanimously as this College’s nominee.

**SLOs**

 **Doctoral SLOs—**Treise asked if the “10 exceeded” and “20 met” the content rubric is acceptable and the response was that it is acceptable. It was suggested that a place for feedback should be included on the Advance-level class form.

**Professional Behavior**--opportunities for “service” were discussed. Current opportunities include GSMCA, mentoring, serving on committees in the College.

Possible additions include:

* involvement in College searches—attending presentations, dinners, etc.
* reviewer for conferences and journals
* graduation marshal
* book reviews
* immersion opportunities

The expectations should be changed to the following for clarity--

\_\_\_**Exceeds** Expectations:

Serves the college or profession through committees, written contributions, or immersion opportunities, and/or participates in academic service, or mentoring of other students.

*\_\_\_****Meets*** *Expectations:*

*Serves the college or profession through working on a committee, written contribution, or immersion opportunity, and/or participates in an academic service project, or mentors other students.*

**Skills--**There should be a new list of expectations for first year doctoral students that includes “working on a paper.” Language should be added to explain the conference cycles and why most first year students don’t meet the expectations.

For the next meeting, Hedge will provide the number of “below expectations” who were first year doctoral students in the spring 2017 annual evaluations.

In the Skills rubric, our CJC Symposium should be included for all doctoral students.

**Skills Rubric 1: Successful completion of research studies to submit to conferences and publication:**

\_\_\_\_Exceeds Expectations:

 **First-year doctoral students**: 1 conference paper accepted and 1 paper submitted to refereed journal. Participation in the CJC Symposium.

**Second, third and fourth year doctoral students**: 1 or more first or sole authored publications accepted in refereed journals; and 1 in revise and resubmit; and 2 or more papers accepted at national conferences. Participation in the CJC Symposium.

 **Master’s SLOs—**Goodman pointed out that in the MADV defenses, all committee members receive a data sheet for assessing SLOs and the numbers are averaged for the final result. MAMC defenses will follow this practice, rather than only the chair completing the form, beginning this semester.

One change will be made to the Skill in MA data sheet. The word, “calmly” will be deleted and “appropriately” will be added.

 

**Traditional Master’s Tracks**

Treise reported that all universities have been facing a decline in domestic Master’s applications. The lower numbers were being offset by international applications but that number has also declined. The number of international applications is down by 63%

There has been a decline in students wanting a traditional MA that prepares them for entering a doctoral program; students are more interested in the professional Master’s.

It was recently suggested that all academic Master’s tracks be combined into one for the pre- dissertation area. This would eliminate all individual Master’s tracks and result in an academic track and a professional track. There are not enough admittees to justify offering every track.

It was suggested that there be a list of two or three common core classes then all other classes would be electives from the student’s area of interest. Students receive a Master of Arts in Mass Communication with no area of specialization listed so this new format would not affect their actual degree name. The number of credits would be consistent for everyone.

Ferguson will discuss this with the PR faculty and report back to the Graduate Committee.

The 4/1 program would be a good pipeline for Master’s students but it isn’t widely promoted to undergrads.

**Grant Writing Class**—the Grant Writing class scheduled in spring 2018 will need to be moved to another time due to conflicts with other doctoral courses.

Meeting was adjourned.

ATTENDING: Babanikos, DiStaso, Ferguson, Goodman, Kelleher, Ostroff, Rodgers, Treise, and Hedge.

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