October 1, 2013

INFORMATION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes— Molleda moved to approve the minutes as written and Ostroff seconded. The minutes were approved with one abstention.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Doctoral Mentoring Award nominee—Treise distributed a list from GIMS of faculty eligible for the Doctoral Mentoring Award. The following faculty members were nominated by the Graduate Committee—Kiousis, Armstrong, Molleda, and Duke. Armstrong and Molleda were asked to leave the room prior to the vote. Armstrong was voted as the College’s winner and nominee.

Combining Research Methods Courses—Treise explained the need to combine research methods classes into one general course rather than having area-specific classes. Ferguson has taught methods both ways—specific and general—and she doesn’t think there is a whole lot of difference. The emphasis should be on the methods and relevant examples can be built in.

Molleda moved to accept the proposal to combine all areas into one methods class. The motion was seconded and after some discussion, passed unanimously. **The proposal will be presented at the next Graduate Faculty meeting** and if passed, will take effect in Fall 2014.

If Methods is not taught in Spring 14, we might need to offer two sections in Fall 14.

Goodman mentioned that the syllabus should be standardized so all areas are covered. Treise said she’ll have a small task force to review the syllabus after the graduate faculty meeting.

On-Campus Students Taking Our Distance Courses—the three directors of our distance programs—Molleda, Weigold, and Selepak—explained their programs and the classes being offered.

Treise said the two major reasons for offering our online classes to on-campus students are:

* students want the skills being taught in the online courses that aren’t offered in our on-campus programs
* our College needs the SCH

Molleda said he is hands-on in the creation of the Global Strategic courses; he reviews the syllabi, and selects the faculty. He said the courses are relevant and the evaluations have been very good.

Weigold pointed out that his program is not affiliated with Pearson/Embanet and all classes are “live” via Adobe Connect. Web Design is a lockstep program and there are no electives. The program has an Advisory Council. Weigold distributed an Overview of the program that included descriptions of each class.

The first four classes cover design aspects and after that, the students transition into more intense work. Because it is part of the Master’s program, theory, methods, ethics and a capstone course are included.

There were some questions about how to know if a student is competent to take any of the web design classes and if it would be detrimental to take them out of sequence.

It was suggested that a list of all core competencies be developed so students and advisors would know if a student is qualified. Graduate Coordinators should consider the student’s future academic needs—will they continue on an academic path or will they work in the profession? That will help determine which classes are relevant.

It was also suggested that the syllabi be more traditional so advisors will understand the course content.

Goodman thinks it would be good for students to take more than one of the web design online classes.

A teaching assistant will be assigned if necessary.

Selepak explained his Social Media program and distributed the degree plan and faculty bios. SM is not a lockstep program. Armstrong pointed out that at the time the Social Media online program was approved, it was also approved that current on-campus students can take up to 6 credits of online SM classes. (see Graduate Faculty Meeting Minutes of 4-30-12.)

Online classes in these three programs will be counted as electives only, not to satisfy core course requirements.

Armstrong asked to table the decision until a future meeting so the coordinators can go back to their departments to discuss.

Ferguson said she is okay with the idea of on-campus students taking classes from our online programs but she thinks the department faculty should be allowed to have input on the decision.

Treise said she will ask Molleda, Weigold, and Selepak to go to department meetings to explain their programs.

Goodman suggested that each department develop their own plan for which, if any, online classes they want their students to take.

The meeting was adjourned.

ATTENDING: Treise, Armstrong, Calvert, Ferguson, Goodman, Molleda, Ostroff, and Hedge.