GRADUATE COMMITTEE MINUTES

04/27/2015

Degree Certification/Graduation with Distinction List

MOTION—Molleda moved to approve the degree certification/Graduation with Distinction list for spring 2015, Selepak seconded, and it passed unanimously.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

Boot Camp

Cleary will be teaching the summer boot camp for incoming students below a certain TOEFL score. The course has been approved by the Curriculum Committee and will now proceed to the next step—approval of the syllabus.

Graduation Survey

Students graduating will have a College hold placed on their records until they complete the graduation survey.

**ACTION ITEMS for the 4/28/15 Graduate Faculty Meeting**

Creative Faculty

Creative faculty are those who don’t do traditional research. Marie Zeglen suggested they be put in their own “department” and won’t count against research numbers. The downside is any grants or awards they receive will not be counted either.

MC minor

A number of students have requested a minor in Mass Comm and we have no formal policy for this. In addition to having a professor from this college on the supervisory committee, students pursuing a MC minor need four MC courses. The minor professor can determine the four courses but a minimum of six credits must be non-methodological and should be theoretical or substantive in Mass Communication.

Time to Degree

The College of JM/COM has a time to doctoral degree of 3.8 years, up from 3.2. This impacts the number of Graduate School Fellowships we are given. The number also appears on our website. Treise mentioned she spoke with one prospective student who said she decided not to come here if it takes over three years to get the degree but the funding is for only three years.

This committee suggested allowing doctoral students only four years from the beginning of doctoral studies to the Qualifying Exam. Treise has received negative feedback to that idea. Ferguson said she doesn’t think it’s unreasonable to require the exam within four years of beginning the program.

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Treise asked that instructors give students a “U” in MMC 7979 if they are not satisfactorily moving ahead with their progress.

MA Specialization Process

This process will be reviewed at the Graduate Faculty meeting.

MA Degree Revision

Treise will be asking the Graduate Faculty to approve the procedure and structure of the new MA degree plan as developed by the Master’s Task Force. Ostroff expressed a concern about having only Summer B for the capstone project but Treise pointed out that students will be working on the projects throughout their time in the program. Summer B will be the wrap up and presentation.

The project class will be team-taught by two professors – from two different departments. The two professors teaching the capstone class will be the students’ committee. An additional member may be assigned if the project is outside of the instructors’ expertise area.

It was suggested the Ph.D. prep track should also be reviewed to better prepare the students for Ph.D. studies.

MOTION—Molleda made a motion to support this plan and Kelleher seconded. All approved.

ATTENDING: Treise, Cleary, Ostroff, Spiker, Selepak, Molleda, and Hedge