

## University Graduate Council Minutes

February, 25, 2013

3:15 p.m.

- Minutes of January 28, 2013: approved via email vote
- Interim Ch-Nic Ward
- No comments from campus
- No committee reports
- Proposal for PhD Materials Sciences: Robert Mokwa
  - Process:
    - Follow similar process as Undergrad program proposal: Goes to University Curriculum and Program Committee (parallel to UGC), provide initial comments/review. Then goes to Academic Programs Working group (APWAG): subset of faculty senate and curriculum committee-does more detailed analysis/research of program and reports back to curriculum committee who votes. Then proposal goes to faculty senate.
    - Our process: UGC do initial cursory review, APWAG would do more detailed review and provide comments back to UGC who will look at it and add any input and vote on proposal. Next step would be to faculty senate and then to provost and on to board of regents.
  - Background Politics
    - Offered between MSU, UM, MT Tech
      - 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> version of proposal
    - Sensitivity:
      - Started 4 years ago in 2010. UM and MT Tech approached Commissioners office asking for PhD granting authority.
      - MSU flagged it-duplication declared
      - OCHE stopped proposal-needs to include MSU
        - We had very little input in 2<sup>nd</sup> proposal
        - Another review by MSU done
        - AAAs review of MSU resources=report
          - May be useful in review
        - Another group put together, group from each school, Dean, Provost, Fac. Senate, Faculty member to provide comments
          - Resulted in today's proposal:
            - OCHE also decoupled PhD from MT Tech and UM
  - UGC Task: Vote from UGC
    - What makes a successful PhD program?
    - Is it doable or is it set up for failure?
    - We approve this and these are our concerns? Or we don't approve this and this is why...
  - Discussion on UGC role:
    - Dyer: are there any other joint efforts between the 3 institutions? How well are they working, what is the history? Mokwa: not at this level.

- Degree will ultimately be granted from MSU
  - Questions on logistics and student status
    - Location: depends on who they are doing research with.
    - Where is their degree awarded from?
    - Sustainable, resources available, demand?
    - Potential issues
      - ie: Granted out of which department?
      - Coordinating work b/w three campuses (pros and cons)
  - Faculty senate relies on this type of committee to review program requirements and function of students moving through degree
- Next meeting (March 18) one of the author's will come to present
  - We can provide questions
  - Presenter will go back for answers and return
- Proposal in Board of Regents for April
- Need other 2 documents/reports for UGC review for March meeting
- Jean-Missoula comment
  - If this is a desirable degree, for student's sake some of logistical issues can be overcome. "Turf wars"-definitely a turf issue (engineering), any way to skirt that to meet needs of students would be good. Call it "empirical science degree" instead of "empirical engineering degree"

- Motion to adjourn. Passed 3:52pm.