

**UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES**

April 20, 2023

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

President's Conference Room

Council in Attendance:

Catherine Dunlop (Letters)
Marc Giullian (Business)
Brian Rossmann (Library)
Jennifer Thomson (Faculty Senate)
Craig Ogilvie (Dean of The Graduate School)
Stephan Warnat (Engineering)
Katey Franklin (Health & Human Development)
Amy Reines (Sciences)
Wade Hill (Nursing)
Sweeney Windchief (Education)
Heidi Koenig (Student Representative)
Scott Powell (Agriculture alternate)
Michael Everts (Architecture)

Also in Attendance:

Lauren Cerretti (Graduate School)

Absent

Arts Representative
Jane Mangold (Agriculture)
Brennan Reeves (Office of International Programs)

Meeting started at 10:00 a.m.

April 6, 2023 minutes

- Motion to approve by Warnat, Hill 2nd, unanimous pass

Announcements

- **Update from the Dean**
 - Met with oSTEM (Out in STEM) club and heard their concerns about campus climate and safety
 - CIMER trainings on campus, uses case studies on e.g. inclusion. There will be CIMER workshops for faculty
 - Indigenous Mentoring training also in May
 - Thinking of GTA training in fall 2023, being effective in the classroom
 - Option is to recruit senior graduate students to be Safe Zone trainers to run Safe Zone level 1 for GTAs in fall
 - Currently only small number of Safe Zone trainers on campus

- Housing: more grad students in housing than ever before. Increase in demand from undergrads could threaten grad access to housing (increase because of off-campus rental costs)
 - Year & half ago housing changed contract to deny housing for those seeking a second degree of the same type (e.g. two master's level degrees), even for international students, and added time limits to housing for master's (36 months/3 years) and doctoral (72 months/6 years)
 - Dean Ogilvie asking the second master's policy to be reversed and to increase the time limit
 - Comment: member knows students who graduate but cannot find housing in Bozeman (though they are employed) so they re-enroll in a certificate to keep campus housing. Most have children.
 - Comment: emails from housing causing stress for students in housing
 - Q: Why isn't Grad School policy on course age applicable for housing?
 - Housing interested in a more specific period of time; if courses roll off POS, student is still an active graduate student
 - Q: if students put on waitlist for fall, how good is chance to have housing?
 - Pretty good, but not certain until housing knows how many current occupants are leaving.
 - Q: Could we rethink language? "Waitlist" doesn't convey that there will be a place for them to live. Could word more clearly, give date of when decision is coming. E.g. "pending decision"
 - Member Thomson asks housing policy info to be sent so she can share with Faculty Senate
 - Dean Ogilvie has received request from graduate students for external door security measure on one of the dormitory towers. Dean Ogilvie working with housing
 - GradCat spring summit—April 24th and online summit offerings April 25 & 26
- **Faculty Senate update (Thomson)**
 - Brainstorm session with administrators last week re: campus climate
 - Approved amendments to faculty handbook, included new definition for review period, sustained effectiveness in teaching, changing definition of student to match student code of conduct
 - Reviewed proposed amendment to mental health resolution, received additional public comment
 - Students suggested via faculty member that campus should make student health fee opt-out instead of opt-in to reduce stigma and because it would cause faculty grants to cover fee automatically if have GRA
 - Would like UGC support moving this forward
 - Comment: would like more student input because there is a chance students would accidentally pay by forgetting to opt out.
 - Comment: could help students whose faculty advisor pays required fees but not opt-in fees

- Asked Student Member Heidi Koenig to bring issue to Graduate Student Leadership Council
- Q: Would Council support Dean Ogilvie asking Joe Young if health fee can be separated from other fees?
 - Yes

Old Business

- Learning outcomes for credits such as professional paper, thesis/dissertation credits (curriculum committee, handout), discussion
 - Document handed out is guideline, wouldn't be policy, and can be used for course entry information in CiM
 - Comment: Could update title to more clearly show this is for research courses (current title of document is "class objective in graduate classes")
 - Q: Is there anyway to bypass review process for a course if programs use info on this handout?
 - A simplified workflow may be possible; Faculty Senate would have to agree as well
 - Thomson can share document with FS with the context that, if approved, could bypass FS
 - Add 575 and 592
 - Please send feedback to Member Warnat by next Thursday
- Draft policy on doctoral entrance exams (policy subcommittee)
 - Comment: no split in GS policy with how we manage comprehensive exams, suggest remove the word "oral" from sentence on top of second page so sentence reads just "comprehensive exams."
 - **Chair Dunlop calls for motion, Windchief moves, Reines 2nd, unanimous pass**
 - Next step, goes to JAGS
- Changing master's thesis credits requirement, programs can choose either nine or ten credits (policy subcommittee)
 - Subcommittee asking for direction
 - Asked to write sentence to change master's thesis policy
 - Choice would be made by program, not vary student to student

New Business

- Will meet May 4th 10-11am (added meeting)

Public comment

- CCAMPIS childcare grant app is now open
 - Will send link to Grad Council
- Dissertation completion grants opening for fall on June 1
 - Q: are those competitive?
 - No, but relies on student's committee to ensure completion

Adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next scheduled meeting – May 4, 2023 at 10am