GRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes
Thursday, November 17, 2022, 3:30 pm
DePaulo Hall, Room 1017 --OR--
https://un cw.zoom.us/j/86577445066?pwd=enVNVFUyd0FUOEgrZDhWeTNFMzYyZz09

ATTENDANCE:

Non-Voting Members: Holman, Webster

Graduate School Staff: Byrnes, Donlin Washington, Harris, Phillips

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
   a. October 20, 2022 -- Motion to approve: Barreto; Seconded: Johnson; All in favor? Yes; Opposed: No; Abstaining? No.

2. Announcements
   a. DPT, CHHS: Request for preliminary authorization was approved by System Office on 11/14/22. It was not a unanimous approval vote. Primary concerns are whether there is a real student demand in NC. This will be the 5th DPT program in the UNC system, as well as several other programs that are available in NC. CHHS has made a great case for the program.
   b. Next steps: The program will be entered in Curriculog off-cycle and go to System Office before April, 2023. It will take at least one year to be reviewed and, if approved by UNC Graduate Council, then will be submitted to BOG for their review/approval.
   c. Curriculog: Curriculum proposals are starting to arrive -- approximating 180 total for the year, likely less. The first 23 will be sent to Committees on 11/18 to be discussed at the next Graduate Council meeting on 12/15. Can the process be streamlined? There are a lot of course deletions, changing pre-requisites to co-requisites, as well as new course proposals and program revisions.
   d. Graduate Research Showcase, 12/1: No longer hybrid format, virtual presentations only. 22 posters have been submitted and accepted and will be displayed on Canvas course. Discussion board for each will include comments; 11 sessions have been pre-recorded.
   e. NCCGS Conference: Thanks to the Grad School Staff for conducting a successful conference last week. Thanks to our speakers, including Dean Holman, who presented some interesting information that was highly received by the attendees.
   f. Library Focus Groups: Dean Holman announced that the Library will be conducting one-hour focus groups (face to face and virtual) in the Spring with graduate students to discuss scholarly research data services, digital scholarship services and the allocation of more spaces available for graduate students (in the current renovation). Please get the word out that we need volunteers.
   g. Library Renovation Update: Construction in process.

3. Discussion of Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Music: Dr. Johnson shared a presentation regarding this proposed certificate – with an emphasis in Orff-Schulwerk pedagogy (most popular). The pedagogy includes singing, playing
music, creative movement and speech. The certificate is currently in Curriculog for review in the Spring and is geared towards classroom music education teachers primarily in grades K-8. It is a 12-credit certificate with a suggested timeline of 4 years to obtain the certification. This allows for the use of the pedagogy in the student’s classroom. The Music Department / CAS would like to eventually pursue a Masters for this certificate as well.

The certificate will provide teachers with job mobility, professional development and the first graduate program in music at UNCW. Graduate credits could be applied to teacher re-certification. Collaboration and transfer of credits with sister institutions (like ECU) who offers a masters program (not this approach) is also a positive benefit.

Currently, there are multiple music faculty who could collaborate to teach the proposed courses, as well as guest instructors hired as independent contractors for the summer courses. Summer residence can be provided by UNCW Residence Life at very affordable rates (Sunday to Friday, $30.00/day).

4. Department of Psychology – Proposed Graduate Faculty Criteria: The Department of Psychology has submitted a proposal to revise their current criteria. Their proposed criteria highlights a 2-tier status approach. Tier 1 status is not externally grant active and permits faculty to teach graduate level courses and mentor graduate students. Tier 2 includes all Tier 1 activities, as well as external grant activity.

Motion to approve: Bolton; Seconded: Williard; All in favor? Yes; Opposed: No; Abstaining? No.

5. Other
   a. Graduate Faculty Definition: The Dean charged the Policy Committee to update the definition Graduate Faculty based on feedback obtained in last year’s discussion with colleges regarding apportionment of seats on Graduate Council.

   One option would be to make Graduate Faculty status an automatic approval at time of hire for tenure track faculty with a terminal degree (as SACS requires). It is rare to hire tenure-track faculty without a terminal degree. This approach would streamline and reduce administrative effort.

   The Dean questioned if “automatic” would remove departmental ability to set their own criteria. The Dean also indicated that this approach does not solve the problem for non-tenure track faculty.

   Other comments included:
   - High hiring standards for tenure-track faculty – auto approval makes sense.
   - What about down the line if faculty aren’t as active in research, etc.?
   - Does this approach increase burden on departments? Currently, Graduate School administers this process.
   - Currently, departments can be more restrictive at a department level. Graduate Council approves these policies. Should we keep that ability?
   - Policy also needs to include how graduate faculty can be rescinded (if certain criteria are not met).
   - Would this create a situation where the department would be policing itself?
   - What about temporary graduate faculty status?
   - Members of Graduate Council may not have expertise in a given field, is it appropriate for them to approve criteria recommended by the department?

   Dean: Currently, newly hired faculty get a 3-year appointment based on Department Chair’s recommendation. Renewal after 3 years.

   Precedent for this approach: Chapel Hill (R1), State (R1) and UNCG (R2) – We are the R-2. Everyone is expected to be research-active.

   b. Graduate Certificate Printing: The Dean introduced this topic to Council to discuss. Currently, we print graduate certificates created by OUR in-house (using Print Services). Digital signatures are stored in-house. To streamline,
should we use the diploma printing service used by the Office of the Registrar. The Registrar’s Office uses Parchment (digital representative) that prints and mails the documents as well. The downside is that the Graduate Dean and Graduate Coordinator signatures would not be included on the Parchment docs. The Chancellor and Provost signatures would be on the certificate.

Comments:
- Efficiency would be welcome (per Council members).
- At least one coordinator indicated they would like the certificates to have the Dean and Coordinators signatures for “the personal touch”. Others did not care.
- The Coordinator could always provide a letter of recommendation or personal letter if an individualized approach is necessary.
- No serious objections raised by Graduate Council.

6. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Bolton.