

## UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, Sept 19, 2018

12-1pm

Reid 415

### Council in Attendance:

Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)

Marc Giullian (Business)

Susan Kollin (Letters)

Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)

Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)

Brock Smith (Agriculture)

Brett Walker (Faculty Senate)

Christopher Livingston (Architecture)

Ann Ewbank (Education)

James Becker (Health & Human Development)

### Also in Attendance

Doralynn Rossman (Library)

### Absent

Nicolas Yunes (Sciences)

Lauren Cerretti (Graduate School)

Dennis Aig (Arts)

Amanda Brown (Graduate School)

Tena Versland (Education)

Yujian Wang (OIP)

Meeting started at 12:00pm

### **Sept 5, 2018 minutes**

- Giullian moves, Livingston second, unanimous approval

### **Announcements**

- **Faculty Senate update** (Walker)
  - MB/IID program changes on agenda today
- **Dean Hoo, BoR updates:**
  - MS Data Science approved
  - MA Teaching approved
  - PhD Chemical Engineering degree re-instated

### **Curriculum Committee**

- BS/MS in Computer Science (Livingston)
  - Sub Committee Chair Livingston prepared a letter on behalf of UGC to Faculty Senate endorsing the proposal
  - Asks if any lingering questions/comments
    - Comment re: additional reserve credits (up to 12) as one-time exception;
    - Students will be advised carefully regarding reserving credits
    - Student will officially apply to MSU graduate school
  - Chair Al-Kaisy asks for motion to send the letter to Faculty Senate
    - Becker moves to approve, Giullian second, unanimous approval

### **Governance sub-committee**

- Prior to today's meeting, sub-committee discussed: MSU Library representative and OIP representatives will be formally added to bylaws as non-voting members

- Sub-committee felt these groups are important additions and should formalize involvement
- Graduate student representative
  - Prior to today's meeting, sub-committee discussed
    - Bylaws re: student member
    - Agreed only 1 student member is needed
    - Agreed inherent bias toward PhD students
    - Should remove “rotation among the colleges” language in the bylaws —not practical to rotate given pool of applicants
    - Sub-committee notes they didn't see the need for two student members
  - Council discussion about student representative:
    - Q: Should UGC allow renewable term?
      - Benefit to limiting term—gives more students opportunity to participate
      - Benefit to allowing 2<sup>nd</sup> term—student more engaged
      - Could write language to leave opening—“may be renewable”—with 2 year maximum
    - Q: Why not two student members?
      - Comment: some departments don't offer doctoral degrees and if two students (1 master's and 1 doctoral) are on council, then more departments could be represented
      - If Council is updating bylaws, maybe could add two students and have one be a master's and the other a doctoral
  - Dean Hoo asks sub-committee to draft changes
  - Al-Kaisy will write draft and send to Council; asks Council to send him any concerns
  - Q: Should we choose a student rep for this year?
    - Agree to choose as soon as possible from current applicant pool
    - Notify Al-Kaisy via email of first and second choice by tomorrow, 9/20, at 5pm

### **Special sub-committee (Shreffler-Grant)**

- Revision of Provost's Award for Graduate Research/Creativity Mentoring
  - Review handout from previous meeting
  - Comment re: 8 year period to judge involvement/mentorship of students—suggestion to make it 10 years because of length of study for PhD student. Original call did not specify time period so could have favored faculty who have been on campus for 20+ years
    - Suggestion to add specification that faculty are only eligible after being at MSU for 5 years
    - Concern that looking at only 10 years disadvantages some faculty
  - Goal is to make evaluations consistent and have a set of guidelines for the review committee to ensure fairness
  - Concern raised that evaluation criteria are very focused on quantitative data
  - Q: Could qualitative measures be added?
  - Special committee will look at call again taking Council discussion into consideration—Provost Office deadline is 9/21
    - Send Shreffler-Grant comments

### **Old Business**

- **Reporting of Comprehensive Exams requirement, discussion of draft proposal (Al-Kaisy/Hoo)**

- Council given draft of policy to review for next meeting
- Changes to note: Name of exam changed to “Mastery of Foundations” and second attempts are allowed as soon as beginning of next term

Adjourned at 1:01 pm

Next scheduled meeting – Oct 3, 2018