

## UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL

### MINUTES

February 7, 2024

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Romney 102

#### Council in Attendance:

Marc Giullian (Business)  
Heidi Koenig (Student Representative)  
Scott Powell (Agriculture)  
Christopher Livingston (Architecture)  
Brennan Reeves (Office of International Programs)  
Catherine Dunlop (Letters)  
Sweeney Windchief (Education)  
Stephan Warnat (Engineering)  
Wade Hill (Nursing)  
Stephanie McCalla (Faculty Senate)  
Craig Ogilvie (Dean of The Graduate School)  
Amy Reines (Sciences)  
Rollin Beamish (Arts)  
Katey Franklin (Health & Human Development)  
Brian Rossmann (Library)

#### Also in Attendance:

Lauren Cerretti (Graduate School)

#### Absent

Meeting started at 10:31 a.m.

#### **January 24, 2024 minutes**

- Motion to approve by Beamish, Livingston 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10 pass, 0 abstention, motion passes

#### **Announcements**

- Faculty Senate update (McCalla)
  - FS had 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of passed UGC policies (thesis credit option and continuous enrollment)
  - Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> will also review UGC passed polices (appeals & academic standing)
  - Some concern has come up with an education online class. Senator worried about too many online classes and international students not being able to take them.
  - Presentation about sustainability coming up at a future meeting

- Update from the Dean
  - Anna French, PhD in Ecology & Environmental Science, Team USA biathlete, NSF fellow
  - Fall to spring graduate retention at record high 94%
  - Food scholarships were recently awarded; 110 to graduate students
    - Any students who weren't awarded were referred to other resources
  - Presenting policies to Academic Counsel (same four that are with Faculty Senate)
    - Assistantship policy is with JAGS

### Old Business

- Class Rank, policy revision (Ogilvie)
  - Dean Ogilvie has met with lawyers and Registrar to work on language. Removes word “prohibit” and instead states “at the graduate level the university does not determine class rank.”
  - Q: does this satisfy the needs for international students?
    - OIP can do the work to compile the data if needed for a student
  - **GS will add to catalog**
- Increasing UGC student membership
  - Update from Governance subcommittee (draft of bylaws revision), discussion
  - Waiting for student feedback (UGC student member sent survey, awaiting response from Graduate Student Leadership Council, a subcommittee of ASMSU)
  - UGC webpage (front page) needs update to match current bylaws for membership and selection and terms; Grad School will fix
  - Q: Should UGC define the selection process?
    - Multiple points of view on this. Pros and cons to defining the process vs keeping this flexible
  - Should attach a stipend to serving on UGC
  - Fewer restrictions to participation, the better
  - Discussion of how to find students with a range of experiences, not just students who always excel

### New Business

- Reserve limit for accelerated programs, policy proposal, discussion
  - Proposal to remove limit of 12cr for accelerated programs
    - Good for marketing, Grad School admissions planning marketing surge
      - Q: Is Grad School checking with departments before this marketing surge?
        - Yes
    - Most UGs reserve just 1-3 credits
    - Fairly rare for students to reserve 12cr
    - There are financial aid limits
  - Some programs don't allow UGs into their GR classes (e.g. counseling)
  - Some split response to removing the limit; cognitive development of UG vs GR students; could affect quality of the degree program

- Q: Would programs that have accelerated track want to remove the limit?
  - Dean Ogilvie asks members to take accelerated proposal back to their colleges for feedback
- Research credits policy, 590 & 690 (Ogilvie)
  - Current policy states 590s are for MS and 690s for doctoral. Students could use 690 on a master's program of study if they switch to master's, but typically must appeal, pursue registration correction, or GARC if they want to use or correct 590s for doctoral program of study
  - Potential solution could be building gate to prevent master's from registering for 690 and doctoral from registering for 590; this could help head-off misregistration
    - Q: How does this impact enroute thesis plan students who take 590s while enrolled as a doctoral student?
      - Would need to be determined
    - Dean Ogilvie will inquire with The Office of the Registrar
  - Could change policy to allow 590 or 690 on program of study regardless of student level
    - Changing this would benefit students who switch from master's to PhD so they can still use their 590s on the doctoral program of study without an extra action
  - Grad School will write proposal for UGC review

#### **Updates from subcommittees**

#### **Public comment**

Adjourned at 11:54 am

Next scheduled meeting –February 21<sup>st</sup> in Romney Hall 102