

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**

Faculty Senate

MINUTES

Thursday, April 18, 2024, 2:30 PM

Graduate School Conference Room, RH 2215

PRESENT: Michael Hair (Chair), Soondo Kweon, Jerry Weinberg, Therese Dickman, Liz Cali, Jill Smucker, Jim Monahan, Wai Cheah, Beidi Qiang, Gloria Sweida, David Cluphf, Michael Shaw, Cinnamon VanPutte, Eric Wrobbel, Carole Frick, Andrea Keller

ABSENT: Rony Die, Bernadette Sobczak, Cheryl Borowiak

EXCUSED: Bhargav Patel

GUESTS:

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Michael Hair, Chair.

I. Announcements

A. Course Review Committee (CRC) Report – On SharePoint

B. Graduate Committee on Assessment (GCOA) Report – On SharePoint

C. Enrollment Management Report

i. Jim Monahan shared that their application numbers continue to be up. There is a concern with international students getting their visa approved with 36% of applicants being denied. There is also a delay on processing times for international applications due to the volume being received. A Council member asked if prospective international students are coached on the visa process. Jim replied that the students are provided resources for the visa application process.

ii. Jim was asked about application fee waivers and he replied that the main application fee waivers will be for students that apply before the early application deadline, those that apply during an open house, and those that are able to prove they have a financial hardship. He shared that a lot of time is being spent processing applications for students that aren't interested in admittance.

iii. Jim let the Council know that interviews for the Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management position have concluded and the final candidate should be announced soon.

D. Student Affairs Announcements – None

E. International Affairs Announcements – None

F. Graduate School Announcements

i. Jerry Weinberg let the Council know that Jill Smucker and Christina McGuiggan had both just returned from presenting at conferences. Jill Smucker had presented on the graduate student writing modules at the Graduate Student Experience Conference and Christina McGuiggan presented on the Graduate School's use of Quali Build at Quali Days.

G. Andrea Keller shared that the One Day One SIUE event had reached 50% of their goal. Council members were encouraged to join her in the ballroom for a celebration. She also shared that Zoom interviews were taking place for the Library Dean search that she is a part of.

H. Other Announcements - None

II. Approval of Minutes of March 21, 2024

It was noted that there was an error in the spelling of Wai Cheah's name in the March 21, 2024 meeting minutes. Michael Shaw accepted the minutes with the correction. Cinnamon VanPutte seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. Public Comments – None

IV. Report of the Educational and Research Policies (ERP) Committee

- A. GR2324-14: Incomplete Grades Policy 1J5
- B. GR2324-15: Grading System Policy 1J1
- C. GR2324-16: Transfer Credit Policy 1J6

Cinnamon VanPutte shared with the Council that all three policies were regular reviews and that they had also received input from the Registrar's Office. The committee had also proposed a list of volunteers for the R&D and RPAB committees that the Council would vote on. The Council would also vote on the proposed chair for next year's ERP committee, Bhargav Patel.

The Council accepted the ERP Committee report with no changes or opposition.

V. Report of the Programs Committee

- A. Music 91A: Adding Specializations
- B. Teaching & Learning 91A: Adjustments to MAT
- C. MBA Abbreviated Program Review
- D. Accountancy Abbreviated Program Review

Dave Cluphf reviewed the Programs Committee report items. The committee had approved all items and had voted that the MBA and Accountancy programs were both in good standing and have enrollment that is sustainable at the present level.

The Council accepted the Programs Committee report with no changes or opposition.

VI. Course Retention Recommendations from GCRC (ART 512)

Michael Hair explained that Art 512 is a printmaking course that could be offered during Maymester and is recommended for retention.

The Council accepted the course retention recommendation with no changes or opposition.

VII. Continuing Business- APR/Dean of the Graduate School Search Update

Cinnamon VanPutte let the Council know that the committee had conducted Zoom interviews with 12 candidates. The committee would be meeting the next day to finalize candidates for in-person interviews with a goal of having the first interview on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

VIII. New Business

A. Vote on R&D and RPAB Candidates

Liz Cali let the Council know that ERP had taken into consideration the balance of new volunteers and experienced volunteers for the committees and had recommendations on which candidates would be the best fit. It was suggested that the Council would benefit from knowing which candidates were recommended by ERP. This was shared with the Council and votes were tabulated in a Qualtrics survey.

The voting results were shared and the candidates with the most votes were appointed to each committee. The Council also voted on the 24-25 chair of ERP.

The following volunteers were appointed onto the R&D Committee: Jasbir Upadhyaya from the School of Dental Medicine was appointed to the Life Sciences and Biomedical panel, Deborah Sellnow-Richmond from Applied Communication Studies was appointed to serve on the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Business, and Education panel, and Rohan Benjankar from Civil Engineering was appointed to serve on the Physical Sciences and Engineering panel.

For the RPAB committee, Andres Davila was chosen as the candidate from the School of Dental Medicine and Ronald Worthington was chosen as the candidate from the School of Pharmacy.

The Council also confirmed Bhargav Patel as the next chair of the ERP Committee. Michael Shaw motioned to close the nominations. Wai Cheah seconded the motion. The motion was approved with no oppositions or abstentions.

B. Volunteer for next FY Textbook Advisory Committee

Michael Shaw gave an overview of the activity of the Textbook Advisory Committee including how often the Committee meets and the impact of their decisions. It was mentioned that decisions made in the Textbook Advisory Committee affect graduate students, especially when different faculty members teach the same course and use different books. Having a graduate faculty member on the committee would help ensure that graduate students are represented in their decisions. If a Council member would like to serve on the committee they should talk to Michael Shaw.

IX. Adjournment

Michael Hair reminded the Council that Cinnamon VanPutte is the Graduate Council chair for next year. The meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.