

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Graduate Council Minutes

January 29, 2015

UC Indian Room, 8:30 a.m.

Members: Present: McAllister, presiding; Bawaneh, Brown-Haims, Brune, Gathman, Gunn, Grueneberg, Heischmidt, Humphrey, Kilburn, Mardanov, McCollum, McFerron, Odegard-Koester, Starrett, Walling, Wang. **Visitors:** Leslee Pollina, Shelba Branscum, Kristin Tolbert, Michele Irby.

1. Dr. McAllister called the meeting to order. Due to the beginning of a new semester and the fact that we had visitors, McAllister asked members to go around the room and introduce themselves.
2. Excellence in Teaching Award: Kristin Tolbert was present to receive her Excellence in Teaching Award. The department of Human Environmental Studies nominated her for her teaching expertise. Kristin received a certificate as well as a check to recognize her accomplishments.

Chris Kinder was awarded the Excellence in Research Award from the department of History. Chris was unable to attend the meeting. Therefore he will receive his acknowledgement by mail.

3. Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from November 20, 2014 was made by Gathman/Humphrey. Minutes were then approved by the council.
4. Reports:
 - a. **Dean's Report:**

Dr. McAllister noted the success of the soft rollout of rental textbooks for Graduate Students. Plans are being made to continue providing rental texts in the semesters to come.
 - b. **Committee Reports:**

Curriculum Committee: Allen Gathman noted there was no report at this time.
Academic Standards Committee: Michelle Brune provided the Council with a handout addressing the following (see handout):

 1. Academic Standards and General Provisions – specifically student accumulation of 6 or more hours of graduate credit in which a grade of “C” is earned may not continue in a graduate level program.
Proposed: To do away with the removal from the program if maintaining a 3.0 grade point average.
(Motion by Heischmidt to approve the 12 hours. Approved by the council.)

Dr. McAllister asked the Council to think about the changes and take the proposals back to their departments for input. These proposals will appear on the February Graduate Council agenda for vote.

2. Residence Requirement/Transfer Credit – deals with the number of credit hours a student may transfer in from another institution (currently 9 credit hours).

Proposed: To allow a student to transfer in no more than 12 credits hours.

- c. **Assessment Committee:** David Starrett mentioned the charges for this group.
 1. Assessing the credit hour equivalency of GR 603
 2. Defining the expectations of the Assessment Committee.

Assessment Committee: No Report

Dr. McAllister noted the Committees will be asked to have their chair selected by our next Graduate Council meeting in January.

5. **Old Business:** Dr. McAllister presented a handout for review of GR 698/699/799. The specific addresses how to assess a student for one of the courses if the student has taken all coursework and only needs to complete GR 698/699/799. A suggestion of adding a course, GR 610, allowing the student to have access to the library and other on-campus research tools.

Graduate Council members could not come to a consensus. Therefore, Dr. McAllister stated he would begin looking at graduate bulletins from other institutions to see how they handle this issue. In addition, Dr. McAllister suggested the Registrar's Office could place the issue on List Serve to ask questions of students.

6. **Action Items:** No actions items were addressed.
7. **Informational Item:** Removal of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) from the admissions requirements for the Master of Natural Science Biology graduate program.
8. **Recommendation for Graduate Faculty Status:**

Gause, Charles P.	Ed. Leadership & Counseling	Regular Graduate Faculty Status
McMurry, Belinda	Polytechnic Studies	Regular Graduate Faculty Status

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. McAllister.

The next Graduate Council meeting will be held Thursday, February 19, 2015 in the UC Indian Room.