

UNL Graduate Council Minutes
April 18, 2019
206 Seaton Hall
2:30 p.m.

Present: Jennifer Clarke, Geoff Friesen, Rhonda Fuelberth, Tony Juritsch, Yusong Li, Clint Rowe, Kara Viesca; Dean Tim Carr presided. Absent: Christina Falci, Laurie Lee, Shawn Ratcliff.

Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2019

Motion was made to accept minutes as written. Motion passed.

Student appeal – Interdepartmental Nutrition Program (INP) termination

Dean Carr presented the events of the case of an INP student and reviewed the process of termination and appeal. The INP committee was recommending termination of the student's program based on the charge of plagiarism. Dean Carr indicated that an initial step was not followed by the INP faculty. Specifically, according to Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, *"In cases where a faculty member's finding of academic dishonesty is disputed by the student, the matter shall be referred to the Conduct Officer for disposition in accordance with the University Disciplinary Procedures."* According to Article IV, students have the right to a disciplinary proceeding and that *"suspension, expulsion or other disciplinary sanction for misconduct may not be imposed without a disciplinary proceeding in accordance with these Disciplinary Procedures."* Therefore, recommendation to terminate the student's program is premature since the Conduct Officer had not yet received the report of potential plagiarism.

Motion was made stating the Graduate Council is unable to review the appeal at this time because a violation of student code of conduct has not been adjudicated by the proper office and procedure as stated in Student Code of Conduct. Motion passed.

Dean Carr, writing on behalf of the Graduate Council, will refer the matter back to the student's advisor and INP Committee.

Consent agenda (April 4, 2019)

Motion was made to approve CHEM 825K, CYAF 800, CYAF 801, MNGT 818, MNGT 819. Four courses were brought forward for discussion:

- MNGT 817 – Some inconsistencies in the syllabus. Unclear if it has sufficient graduate level coursework. It would have been helpful to see the actual semester/mini-course calendar. Requires a substantial amount of reading. Dr. Friesen explained that courses in this department normally go through a faculty curriculum committee review. Questions: Are the outcomes measurable? Is there a rubric for evaluation? Is there another product of learning that will be required? What are the learning objectives of this course, how are they being measured? Have they considered a more robust final project consistent with graduate education? The Council is requesting revision. Tabled.
- CHME 871 – Fairly minimal graduate requirements. More detail is needed on graduate requirements. Tabled.
- CYAF 800L – Not clear in the syllabus if this constitutes 3 credit course. Appears to be more consistent with 1 credit course. Also needs "the certificate" clarified. Tabled.

- CYAF 801L – Again, the syllabus looks more like 1 credit course, rather than 3 credit course. Also needs to have “certificate” identified. Tabled.

Eva will contact departments for clarification and revision. If we get responses to these questions within the next two weeks, Dean Carr will follow with an email ballot.

Old Business

- Results of email ballot sent on 4/2/2019: Council approved CYAF 820 and 830, but CYAF 819 was not approved. Results were conveyed to CYAF. Also, proposed modification of the MPA degree to decrease from 36 to 30 credit hours was approved. Notification has been sent to accountancy department.
- Reminder to Graduate Council: We need nominations from departments in Physical Sciences and Business for membership to Graduate Council.
- Update on Graduate faculty categories: Dean Carr will set up a meeting with Susan Fritz to discuss creating a category called Professional Faculty. The concept is to provide this option as an alternative to Graduate Faculty for non-tenure track faculty who support professional degree programs. How should we define “professional” degrees and what would be the eligibility requirements for nomination to be appointed? Other options for accommodating non-tenure faculty is the Graduate Lecturer appointment. Another alternative is to have Graduate Faculty Associate renewable.

Graduate Student Assembly Report – Anthony Juritsch

Nothing to report at this time.

Announcements

- General Counsel is working with Dean Carr on procedures for termination of a student’s degree program and termination of an assistantship. Current procedures are not clear on initial steps when the student is first notified and whether the student has adequate opportunity to respond, either verbally or in writing. Initial steps should include a face-to-face meeting (or video meeting). A reasonable time should be given to students to prepare a response. Dean Carr will work with the General Counsel office over the summer.
- The Graduate Council will change meeting date to the first Thursday of each month. Start time of 2:30 pm will remain the same.

Meeting adjourned - 4:27.

Respectfully submitted,
Eva Bachman, Ph.D.