

UNL Graduate Council Minutes
Thursday, February 6, 2020
206 Seaton Hall
2:30 pm

Present: Jennifer Clarke, Christina Falci, Geoff Friesen, Rhonda Fuelberth, Adam Houston, Tony Juritsch, Laurie Lee, Yusong Li, and Kara Viesca. Presided by Dean Tim Carr. Absent: Shawn Ratcliff.

Approval of Minutes from December 5, 2019

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

Guidelines for Academic Actions

Dean Carr had previously asked Christina Falci and Shawn Ratcliff to review the proposed revisions of procedures for processing academic actions. The guidelines are an update of current policies regarding grounds for recommending probation or program termination and the appeals process. Dean Carr has been working with the Office of General Counsel to clarify some language in the document. Dr. Falci provided her insights. Motion was made to approve the revised guidelines. Motion passed.

Consent agenda – new course proposals

Dr. Carr introduced a plan to assign two lead readers for each new course proposal. The lead readers would be selected based on their expertise. The lead readers would present the proposals to the entire Council for discussion. The intent is to expedite the review process. The Council agreed to adopt this procedure.

Courses that were approved:

CDEV 835; CYAF 402/802; EMGT 809; SLPA 874; SLPA 875; SPAN 486/886

Courses that were tabled:

AGRO 429/829 – The description on graduate student requirements was not sufficient. Needs more detail about differentiation; add description of assignment for 800 vs. 400; use the lab notebook as a model. Motion to table, with Dean Carr reviewing the revision on behalf of the Council. Motion passed.

ANTH 455/855 – Description of graduate student differentiation not sufficient. Appears to be a WH Thompson course which undergraduate only. Should this be offered to graduate students? Motion to table pending clarification. Motion passed.

ANTH 456/856 – Description of graduate student differentiation not sufficient. There was confusion about the titles – different title in different places in the proposal. There was confusion about the prerequisite course being ANTH 858 (Intro to...), which is numbered higher than 856. There appears to be overlap with 855. Motion to table for pending clarification. Motion passed.

CHEM 437/837 – The syllabus needs to be updated showing the credit hours offered. Need clarification on whether this course is separate from lab or tied to lab. Clarification on the

assignments of the 400 word papers: is this per assignment or per lab? Need clearer definition pertaining to graduate level. Description of graduate differentiation not sufficient. Motion to table pending clarification. Motion passed.

FDST 414/814 – Description of graduate student differentiation not sufficient. Eva will send examples. Reading assignments are good, but need better description on graduate differentiation in readings, show in calendar outline what is required. Motion to table pending clarification. Motion passed.

FDST 415/815 – Description of graduate student differentiation not sufficient. Level of reading statement outline needs to be more specific regarding graduate differentiation in readings, show in calendar outline what is required. Motion to table pending clarification. Motion passed.

SCMA courses (discussed as a group) 935, 937, 939, 944, 945, 946, 955, 956 – Clarify the variable credit hours for each SCMA course. What would this look like if a student signed up for 1, 2 or 3 credits? Discuss possible overlap with existing statistics and math courses. Provide justification. Motion to table pending clarification. Motion passed.

General discussion: Do we allow programs to have a monopoly of content? Can we ask them to consider existing resources? How can they help each other? What about full course issues that have priority to majors? Incentive for collaboration? Is there a future benefit to cross listing courses? Proposed new courses have already gone through the college deans offices. Do we assume the deans are exploring these issues before approving? Needs to be a university-wide discussion. How do we work with issues of potential duplication of courses? When new courses are being proposed, these discussions should happen, but at what level? Should the college deans (or their designees) take a more proactive role?

Courses not discussed due to lack of time (added to March agenda):

THEA 846; GEOG 441/841; IDES 487/887; LAW 574G; MECH 472/872; SLPA/SPED 494/894; SPAN 454/854.

Proposed new MS degree in Supply Chain Management

Dr. Jennifer Ryan, Department Chair, Dr. Scott Swenseth, Dr. Ozgur Araz, and Dr. Tammy Beck attended the Council meeting to answer questions about the new MS degree proposal (and the proposal PhD specialization). The main point of discussion focused on CoB courses that are built on statistical methods. Dr. Clarke raised concerns that these courses represent duplication of existing courses in the Statistics Department and encouraged CoB to talk with the Statistics Department. The guests departed prior to the Council's discussion and vote.

The new MS degree is a 30 credit hour program, 10 courses, all online and offered as eight-week courses. The curriculum is designed to leverage existing coursework within the college: five business core fundamentals from the MBA program provide the foundation in which SCMA strategies and business analytics are included. One is a capstone project to satisfy the comprehensive exam requirement. The proposed MS degree utilizes existing courses. The curriculum includes two electives from the eight courses listed that focus on IT, specific interests, and analytics. The target audience is working professionals who want to added training and master's degree. What distinguishes the new MS in Supply Chain Management

from the MS in Business Analytics? While similar, the required courses are entirely different. Some electives overlap. Motion to approve. Motion passed.

Proposed specialization (PhD) in Supply Chain Management and Analytics

Dr. Jennifer Ryan discussed the proposal for the new specialization. It will be an added specialization under the existing PhD in Business. They want to redirect the focus away from the Management specialization and create its own specialization. The faculty have already approved. They have proposed a suite of research seminars. Credit hours are fluid depending on length and faculty instructor. Anticipation of students taking 3 credits per semester. They are anticipating 4 new students every other year. It will be a small program initially. Variable credits allow flexibility in offerings of topics.

Motion to table until revisions of new SCMA courses has been reviewed and approved. Motion passed.

Admission policy update - report only

The Graduate Admission policy has been revised to reflect updated language. The changes have been made to the online graduate catalog.

Proposed modification to MS in Civil Engineering option III

Due to the lack of time, this proposal was added to the next meeting agenda.

Graduate Student Assembly Report

None.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eva Bachman, Ph.D.