

Graduate Council Minutes

December 1, 2022

Location: Zoom

2:30-5

In attendance: Brenda Wristen, Andrew Donesky, Elizabeth Niehaus, Maria Marron, Adam Houston, Laura Munoz, Geoffrey Friesen, Jennifer Clarke, Eva Bachman, Dean Hope presiding

1. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2022, deferred to February 2023 meeting for additional review.
2. Proposal of Dual in History and Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education (MA)
Graduate Council was generally in support of the proposal but raised several concerns that need to be clarified including: (a) what is needed in TLTE if one does the MA in history given shared and credits and no TLTE capstone; (b) clarification on composition of masters committee with three members, one outside of the program; (c) insuring the grading requirement follow Office of Graduate Studies policy. Graduate Council discussed utility of doing the dual enrollment if it only saves 3 hours, but it was noted that it allows two diplomas. Motion to approve pending Dean Hope seeking these clarifications. Seconded and unanimous approval.
3. Proposal for Graduate Certificate in Agronomy
Graduate Council reviewed the general purpose and requirements of graduate certificates prior to the discussion of this proposal. Graduate Council members noted that this is a very broad certificate but, given the variety of potential audiences, seems appropriate. Two minor concerns were noted. The term *microcredential* to refer to the graduate certificate is confusing in the document and should be reworded. Greater clarification on how advising will occur is needed, including potential pathways for certain constituencies, as appropriate. Motion to approve pending these minor changes was made and seconded with unanimous approval.
4. Revised Proposal for new MS in Accounting
Aaron Crabtree attended to address questions raised by the Graduate Council. This is the second time this program has come to the Graduate Council and was substantially revised. One primary concern last time was whether an online MS program was needed or if the current residential MPA program could have an online track. Prof. Crabtree explained that this program serves a different audience and covers different aspects of accounting than the MPA which is focused on preparing students for the CPA exam in all licensing jurisdictions.

Graduate Council voted to table so the program could address two remaining concerns. First, if preparation for the CPA exam is not a purpose of the MS in Accounting, then this should be greatly de-emphasized in the document and the educational goal further highlighted. Second, provide clarification of the capacity to serve either 15 or 30 students as the document is inconsistent.

Graduate Council would like to see the document before making a final vote. This may be handled via email given the next meeting is not until February. Motion to table was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. Proposal to move Graduate Council communications and files to Microsoft Teams.
Dean Hope proposed moving Graduate Council communications and documents to Microsoft Teams to facilitate communication. All members agree.
6. Curriculum Discussion
No courses needed to be reviewed. Eva Bachman noted that 275 courses have been processed so far this year.
7. Graduate Student Assembly Report
President Andrew Donesky reported that GSA leadership had met with Chancellor Green and discussed graduate student stipends. There was some discussion of the data GSA has compiled on stipends that is available at <https://www.unl.edu/gsa/news-and-reports> GSA currently has representatives from 62 of 68 units. The user satisfaction survey for the student health insurance is under way. The Family Housing Task Force submitted their report to EVC Ankerson today.
8. Announcements
Dean Hope noted that the approval for the Graduate College Handbook and Bylaws is under way.
Dean Hope reported that applications for graduate and professional programs are up in general, driven by an increase in international applications with a decrease in domestic applications compared to one year ago at this time.

Meeting adjourned: 5:03PM

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Cordonier