

UNL GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

3:30 pm, Seaton 206

The UNL Graduate Council convened at 3:30 p.m. in Room 206 of Seaton Hall. Present were: Professors Shannon Bartelt-Hunt, Ted Hamann, Clinton Rowe, Melanie Simpson, David Smith, and Laurie Thomas Lee; graduate student representatives: Greg DeGirolamo and Curtis Walker; Ex-officio members: Dean Lance Pérez and Associate Dean Laurie Bellows; and Jane Schneider, Office of Graduate Studies. Members absent: Professors Christina Falci and Rhonda Fuelberth. Dean Lance Pérez presided.

Dean Pérez welcomed new Grad Council member Clinton Rowe from Earth & Atmospheric Sciences.

Approval of April 9, 2015 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as amended: Student representative was Abdelbaset Hamza was present, not Ignacio Correas. The GSA is discussing graduate student grievance and has not drafted a process. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of new Major: Complex Biosystems PhD program

A motion was made and seconded to approve a new major in Complex Biosystems. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of New Graduate Specializations

The Council discussed approval of five new graduate specializations attached to the proposal for the Complex Biosystems PhD proposal. The Council requested minor changes be made in the specializations proposal related to the section on "Requirements for students enrolled in the specialization" and agreed to call for an email vote once the changes were made.

Approval of New Certificate Program in Construction Engineering and Management

The Council discussed a proposal for a Certificate in Construction Engineering and Management. Due to time constraints, the Council agreed to vote by email on the proposal.

GSA Report

Curtis Walker and Greg DeGirolamo reported on current GSA activities.

- At the last meeting of the legislative assembly there were 50 student members.
- A meeting will be scheduled with Dean Pérez to discuss a graduate student grievances process.
- All department representatives will be required to serve on a committee.

Other

- Dean Pérez reported that no additional action has been taken regarding the Affordable Care Act and its impact on graduate students.
- Dean Pérez informed the Grad Council that recruitment grants will be available for 2016-17, but the initiative may not be continued after this year.
- Associate Dean Laurie Bellows announced the Graduate Chair Workshop on October 9, 9-11:30 a.m. will address challenging graduate students.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.