

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

August 28, 2018

The Graduate Council met at 10:00 am in Thomas Boyd Hall in Room 135 with the following members present: Broussard, Lockridge, Richardson (ex-officio), Adams, Cai, Chance, Frick, Gansle, Lindau, Perry, Piccoli, and Seifried.

Absent members: Lee (ex-officio), de Queiroz, Francis, Husseneder, Pojman, and Sharky.

Minutes of May 10, 2018

Broussard asked if there were any objections to the minutes from May's meeting. Gansle made a motion to accept the May meeting minutes, Lindau seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Chair's Report

- Broussard thanked everyone for coming to the first meeting of the semester. She introduced the new Interim Dean of the Graduate School, Malcolm Richardson, and new member, Chad Seifried.
- The participants in the trial affiliate membership were thanked for their participation.
- The Revision of By-Laws subcommittee should be discussed to decide if it should continue moving forward. According to Lockridge, the subcommittee's purpose was to address membership criteria for the Graduate Council. The trial membership for the four Affiliate members in the spring was a result. A brief discussion by members present ended with Gansle making a motion to move forward with the current set of bylaws; seconded by Piccoli and passed with no objections.
- The Graduate Council can revisit these topics at another time.

Interim Dean's Report

- Richardson introduced himself to the Council members and will give an update on the search for a permanent Dean as soon as one is available.
- A candidate has been selected and presented with an offer for the Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate School position. Once the offer is accepted, he will make the announcement.
- He met with the Faculty Senate president to discuss potential agenda items for future Grad Council meetings.
 - English, as a Second Language (ESL): This has been presented to the Council previously, and due to some recent changes, the policy may need to be updated.
 - Graduate Council membership: A proposal to make membership elected instead of appointed is forthcoming from the Faculty Senate. This proposal has been a topic of discussion in previous Graduate Council meetings and Faculty Senate meetings. Broussard added that since departments choose representative differently, this proposal could standardize how members are selected.

- Three main items Richardson would like to work on with the Graduate Council:
 - LSU Online: He would like to invite Provost Sasha Thackaberry and her team to speak to the Grad Council about LSU Online and how it will affect graduate studies. He will ask her to forward some information for Council members to review.
 - The new CRM: Slate has been selected and is already a vast improvement from its predecessor. Members of the Graduate School staff are currently working on a plan for the rollout of the new software.
 - Graduate Teaching Assistants: He would like to provide additional support and highlight different resources available to them over the course of the school year.

Academic Affairs' Report

- No report.

New Business

Proposal: Graduate Certificate in Business

Helmut Schneider gave a brief rationale for the proposal. He stated the market for MBAs has become very competitive. This certificate can provide the following benefits to students and the University:

- The course requirements to receive a certificate can count towards the course requirements to earn an MBA.
- It can lower the dropout rate. Students can test the waters by taking the courses to earn a graduate certificate instead of feeling pressured to complete the entire MBA program.
- It addresses the demand from non-business students to have the option to have a business minor.

Schneider entertained questions from the floor. Lockridge asked if the proposal says anything about admission requirements. He responded that there were none listed, but are the same as the admission requirements for the MBA program. Gansle mentioned that previous graduate certificate proposals with different admission requirements than the standard ones would have to make the revisions after the initial review. Broussard suggested he include a statement clarifying admission requirements.

Gansle made a motion to approve after including the admission requirements. Piccoli seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Proposal: MS in CFS Program

Pamela Monroe briefly summarized the history of the Child and Family Studies (CFS) program and how it was placed on hiatus some time ago. This proposal would reactivate the program. It was previously responsible for 55% of Masters Degrees in Human Ecology. The proposal mistakenly went to C&C before coming to the Graduate Council and was conditionally approved. She opened the floor for discussion.

Chance asked if the 7000 level courses are new. Monroe stated these courses are not new and are the norm for this type of program. He followed up by asking if there were resources available to support the relaunching of this program. Monroe says the department has added new faculty and Ph.D. level, permanent instructors.

Chance made a motion to approve, seconded by Adams, and the motion passed unopposed.

English Requirements for Incoming Graduate Assistants

Gansle led the discussion about the English requirements for incoming Graduate Assistants. There are several incoming international graduate students from other English-speaking countries that are required to take the IELTS or the TOEFL for admission. Additionally, they are required to take other tests that include an oral proficiency examination and enroll in several undergraduate English courses, which is often a hardship for them. She has researched the laws governing this and discovered the same requirements exist for anyone in a teaching capacity, including faculty members. She asked members present if they have had similar experiences and opened the floor for discussion.

Chance mentioned a similar issue with an international student in the Marketing Department. Piccoli thought it was required for every international student to complete two courses of written English unless waived. Richardson added that GA's that teach a class or lab are required to take the test and RA1 graduate students are exempt.

At the conclusion of this discussion, Adams suggested that Albert Camp should be invited to a Grad Council meeting to explain the current policy. Broussard will extend the invitation to Albert Camp to attend a future Graduate Council meeting.

Revision of PS-45- Policies on Courses & Curricula

Broussard presented the proposed changes to PS-45 and opened the floor for discussion. Lockridge made a motion to accept the proposed changes to PS-45, Gansle seconded, and the motion passed unopposed.

Dissertations in Foreign Languages

Richardson suggested making a requirement for all LSU theses and dissertations to be written in English, excluding any from foreign language departments and Comparative Literature. He stated that there are no guidelines or requirements for this currently and opened the floor for discussion.

Chance asked if any are ever submitted, to which Richardson responded that he was uncertain of the precise number. Several members discussed and agreed that a policy should be created to protect the role of the Dean's representative in this type of scenario. The faculty and Dean's representative should be trusted to ensure this is not a common issue. Richardson replied that although it is not an issue currently, that it might come up in the future. Some members agreed with Richardson's statement. Piccoli made the motion to table this item until further notice; Gansle seconded it; the motion passed unopposed.

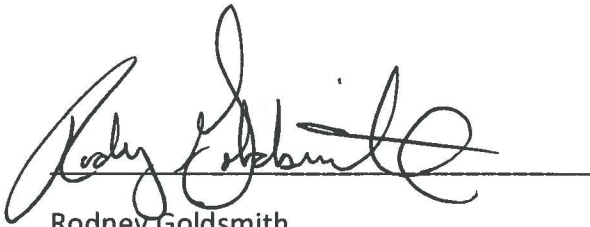
Standing Committee Reports

- Promotion & Tenure- Chance: The subcommittee spent a lot of time contributing to the revision of PS-36 along with Vice Provost Jane Cassidy. During the summer, the Provost Advisory Committee reviewed one case for a new hire with tenure. Chance, Gansle, and Frick met with President King Alexander to discuss the P&T process in regards to new Provost Search.
- Awards- No report.
- Graduate Faculty - de Queiroz: No report.
- Graduate Council Webpage- Adams: No report.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at 10:00 am in 135 Thomas Boyd Hall.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:24 AM.

Recorded by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodney Goldsmith", written over a horizontal line.

Rodney Goldsmith
Assistant to the Dean

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Richardson", written over a horizontal line.

Malcolm Richardson
Interim Dean of the Graduate School