

Graduate Council Minutes

January 16, 2008

Present: Beyler, Bluestone, Brennan, Elzanowski, Maier, McCartney, Mildner, Ostlund, Reynolds, Siegel, Taylor, Yeakley, Vurkac, Feyerherm, Harmon, Orr Eldred, Hanson

Absent: Borgmeier, Butler, Walden

Agenda

Minutes from November 14 meeting

New Business

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Department name change. Change name from Environmental Programs to Environmental Science and Management Program.
- ESR 460/560 Air Quality, 4 credits – new course
- ESR 480/580 Coastal Marine Ecology, 4 credits – new course
- ESR 485/585 Ecology and Management of Bio-Invasions, 4 credits – new course

School of Business Administration

- BA 548 Special Topics in Business, 4 credits – new course

College of Urban Studies and Planning

- USP 529 Green Buildings I, 3 credits – new course

Discussion – faculty qualification to teach graduate courses

Discussion – doctoral program requirements

Discussion – campus copyright policy

The meeting was called to order at 3:08.

Minutes from November 14, 2007 GC meeting

It was moved (Elzanowski) and seconded (Maier) to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

- Department name change. Change name from Environmental Programs to Environmental Science and Management Program.

Graduate Council approved the change to Environmental Science and Management Program. Harmon will notify EPC.

- ESR 460/560 Air Quality, 4 credits – new course

After discussion, it was moved (Siegel) and seconded (Vurkac) to approve the proposal pending clarification of library statement. The motion was approved with 11 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

- ESR 480/580 Coastal Marine Ecology, 4 credits – new course
- ESR 485/585 Ecology and Management of Bio-Invasions, 4 credits – new course

After discussion, it was moved (Maier) and seconded (McCartney) to approve both proposals as submitted. The motion was approved with 11 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

School of Business Administration

- BA 548 Special Topics in Business, 4 credits – new course

After discussion, it was moved (Reynolds) and seconded (Brennan) to approve the proposal as submitted. The motion was approved with 11 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

College of Urban Studies and Planning

- USP 529 Green Buildings I, 3 credits – new course

After discussion, it was moved (Reynolds) and seconded (McCartney) to approve the proposal as submitted. The motion was approved with 11 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

Discussion – faculty qualification to teach graduate courses

Ostlund informed the committee that Faculty Senate had passed a motion requiring GC to clarify who is qualified to teach 500- and 600-level courses, consider ways to determine if departments are in compliance, and summarize the conclusions in the June report to Faculty Senate. Discussion focused on GC's review of faculty qualifications at the time of GC new course proposal approvals, but that GC does not monitor which faculty members are teaching courses after they are approved. Ostlund will draft a statement and bring it to the GC members for review.

Discussion – doctoral program requirements

Orr Eldred provided information from the Council of Graduate Schools annual meeting in December. Current emphasis is that time to doctoral degree needs to be short (e.g. 3-5 years, especially in the sciences) if universities are to remain competitive, and that anything beyond 10 years is not acceptable. OGS will have detailed information available about PSU doctoral programs for a future meeting.

Discussion – campus copyright policy

Siegel led a discussion about the campus copyright policy. She noted that compliance is the responsibility of the individual, but asked whether GC should be monitoring items that appeared could be in violation of the policy in new course and program proposals, such as over reliance on handouts in class. It was agreed that GC would monitor this. It was also suggested that information about the policy be included in the instructions for new course proposals.

Butler, Borgmeier, and Yeakley will read petitions during Winter term.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.