

## Graduate Council Minutes

October 15, 2008

**Present:** Beyler, Bodegom, Borgmeier, Elzanowski, Everett, Faaleava, Gould, Howard, Jivanjee, Maier, Marshall, Mildner, Robillard, Feyerherm, Ostlund, Harmon, Hanson, Popp

**Absent:** none

### Agenda

#### Introductions

#### Minutes from June 11 meeting

#### Review Panel and Petition processes

#### Petition readers for Fall term

#### Demonstration of Curriculum Tracker system

#### Discussion: Doctoral program requirements

#### Old Business

Follow-up on outstanding proposals from last year

#### Brennan (Chair)/Bluestone/Elzanowski committee

- MUS 468/568 Special Topics in Music History, 2 credits – new course

#### Maier (Chair)/Siegel/Reynolds committee

- CE 476/576 and ESR 476/576 (crosslisted) Aquatic Chemistry, 4 credits – new course

#### Mildner (Chair)/Taylor/Elzanowski committee

- ESR 570 Environmental Education, 3 credits – change to 4 credits
- ESR 474/574 Biodiversity of Oregon's Wetland Plants, 4 credits – new course
- PH 481/581 Introduction to Nano(materials)-Science and -Engineering, 4 credits – new course
- PH 545, 546, 547 Microelectronic Device Fabrication I, II, III, 4 credits each – new course
- PH 586, 586 Experimental Methods in Applied Physics, 4 credits each – new course

The meeting was called to order at 12:10. Members introduced themselves.

#### Minutes from June 11 meeting

*The minutes were approved as submitted with 5 in favor, 0 against, and 7 abstentions.*

#### Review Panel and Petition processes

Beyler provided an overview of the GC's functions, including discussion of and action on graduate policies as well as the review panel and petition processes. He also provided a summary of the specific items to watch for during the proposal review process. The division of labor among GC members and the fact that there are few returning members was also discussed.

#### Petition readers for Fall term

Faaleava, Gould, Howard will read petitions in Fall term.

#### Demonstration of Curriculum Tracker System

Harmon and Hanson provided a demonstration of the new curricular tracking system (CTS). The CTS was devised at the request of the Provost, who wanted to establish a system that would allow for convenient and systematic tracking of all proposals pending at the UCC, GC, and FS levels, as well as tracking proposals as they progress to the OUS and Board levels. All course and program proposals will be entered into the system by Harmon, and

revisions will be made directly in the CTS. Harmon will send information to all the GC members about establishing their access in the CTS.

#### **Discussion: Doctoral program requirements**

Beyler gave an overview of the issue regarding the current doctoral program requirements, which GC began to examine last year. Currently there are virtually no university-level time limits for completing a doctoral degree, which can and does result in students graduating with doctoral degrees more than 20 years after they began the program. GC will continue to review this issue this year with the aim of establishing university time limits. Ostlund also stated that she will be meeting with the directors of all the doctoral programs this Fall, and that she will be asking for their input on this issue. Beyler said that this issue will be on the agenda of the next GC meeting and asked members to come prepared to discuss it.

Ostlund also gave a brief overview of the work she is doing with the assessment of student learning outcomes and the OUS-mandated five-year review of new programs.

#### **Old Business**

Follow-up on outstanding proposals from last year

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Hanson asked that the remaining members of these panels provide an update as to status of these pending proposals.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.