

**Graduate Council Minutes
December 10, 2019
Health Science Campus, Health Education Building 105**

Present: Wissam AbbouAlaiwi, Brian Ashburner, Defne Apul, Tomer Avidor-Reiss, John Bossenbroek, Timothy Brakel, Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Frank Calzonetti, Saurabh Chattopadhyay, Wendy Cochrane, Heather Conti, Daniel Georgiev, Cyndee Gruden, Daniel Hammel, Mohamed Samir Hefzy, Andrea Kalinoski, Ken Kilbert, Anand Kunnathur, Abraham Lee, Song-Tao Liu, Sara Lundquist, Michael Mallin, Nagalakshmi Nadiminty, Patricia Relue, Barry Scheuermann, Beth Schlemper, Kelly Phillips, Rebecca Schneider, Martha Sexton, Ozcan Sezer, Ruslan Slutsky, Oleg Smirnov, Susan Sochacki, Megan Stewart, Varun Vaidya, Jerry Van Hoy, Kandace Williams.

Excused: Raina Dawson (GSA), Alisa Nammavong (GSA), Marcia McInerney.

Absent: Terry Bigioni, Penny Poplin Gosetti, James Willey.

Guests: Linda Lewandowski, Susan Pocotte.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order and the roll called. The Minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of October 29, 2019 were approved.

Executive Reports

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council

On behalf of Graduate Council, Dr. Song-Tao Liu reported:

- Today's meeting is the last of 2019 and COGS provided refreshments.
- *Administration Meetings*
Chair Liu has regular meetings with Provost and attends the President's Advisory Council (PAC) meetings. He will prepare a GC report to present to the Board of Trustees at its December 16, 2019 meeting.
- *Academic Grievance Policy*
The GCEC has reviewed the Academic Grievance policy and hopes to bring to GC for a vote.
- *Curriculum*
While there is not a regular curriculum report today, there are several things to call your attention to.

Catalog 2020-2021

March 17, 2020 is the deadline for submission of curriculum into CIM (approved through the college level) for review by the GCCC and Graduate Council.

There are some curricular items in queue from November for review. The Thanksgiving holiday coupled with learning CIM system and transition of Graduate Council Curriculum Committee (GCCC) chair from Tim Mueser to Ozcan Sezer (Mueser on sabbatical in spring 2020), have presented some challenges. Please notify GCCC or GCEC of any hard deadlines or urgent curricular proposals. All courses have to go through GCCC before GC and upper level approvals.

- *UT Fundraising*
The President is looking forward to the campaign. We would like to invite the Foundation to explain and see how we can help one another.
- *Graduate Faculty concerns*
Looking at developing a survey to collect information about concerns of graduate faculty to share with administration.

Report of the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Dean Bryant-Friedrich reported that she and Associate Dean Gruden attended the Council of Graduate Schools 59th Annual Meeting this past week in Nashville, TN. The annual meeting and plenary sessions provided information and discussion in current topics of graduate education. An area of interest that is seeing a strong push at the national level is for work force credentials. People need to be trained for the workforce of the future. Micro-credentials and badges (additional achievements) people can use to advance their degree were discussed. It is usually helping individuals gain expertise in areas on top of what they already have.

To be competitive, you have to make it accessible. UT is a leader in several areas. Graduate faculty know the expertise of their programs and what students want in their disciplines. Micro-credentials allow a lot of creativity. Buzzwords in credentialing are 'stackable' (towards a master's degree). Most institutions are dealing with the same financial constraints. Credentials are a shorter amount of time and affordable. People cannot always return to get a master's degree. We would like to put some focused effort in this area by organizing 4-5 people to discuss what this should look like for our campus. Those interested, should let Dean Bryant-Friedrich or Associate Dean Gruden know.

Associate Dean Gruden added there are conversations at the State level about this as well, whether there should be oversight at the State level and whether it should be considered workforce development. These are early conversations and Dr. Gruden will keep Council informed.

Discussion:

Andrea Kalinoski inquired whether something similar already exists for teachers.

Ruslan Slusky added that is common practice, but shifts based on State requirements.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich asked Dr. Slusky to send her an email to discuss.

Cyndee Gruden noted they need to be less than 15 credits total.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich indicated that Dean Lewandowski is exploring competency based education at the graduate level in the College of Nursing.

Cyndee Gruden noted that she attended a CGS session on data science. She asked how many Council members work with data science. Several raised hands. She indicated that other schools are discussing where it should reside among other concerns.

Dan Hammel pointed out that there is a working group focused on undergraduate interdisciplinary curriculum with broad representation from several colleges.

Samir Hefzy asked what three courses would be called.

Cyndee Gruden replied they could be badges or micro-certificates, depending on if there is an academic meaning or endorsement. It would be required to go through the curriculum process.

Ruslan Slutsky indicated that a certificate usually relates to licensing in Education.

Research and Sponsored Programs Update

Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Vice President of Research reported that University Research Funding Opportunities (URFOs) have summer funding available through the Research Awards and Fellowship Program and the DeArce-Koch Memorial fund with a deadline of January 22, 2020. These are smaller grants. Proposals are evaluated by the University Research Council.

Larger grants up to \$50,000 are made through the STEM, Biomedical and Interdisciplinary Research Programs. We received 41 pre-proposals and the Research Council decided which should go out for external review, at a cost of about \$1,000 for each proposal. Eleven proposals were invited to submit full proposals. We would like send out more, but do not have the band with this year.

The Office of RSP is working on a faculty departure checklist to be informed of situations where the faculty have lab notebooks, intellectual property, and graduate students involved with a dissertation committee that remain after departure. We will seek input from the Graduate Council.

Report of the Graduate Student Association

None.

Information and Discussion Items

Funding of Graduate Programs

Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich informed Council that the graduate assistant funding allocation process is underway and she is seeking some insight. The budget for tuition waivers for graduate assistantship decreased in the recent past to \$17-\$18 million. It is likely to go down to ~\$15 with budget cuts occurring this year. Currently, spending is where it was last year at \$18.4 million but the budget is not available. There is a strong possibility we could run out of funds in spring with an additional cut. Summer not looking good. Be cautious bringing people on with funding.

Tomer Avidor-Reiss asked for clarification on how allocations are authorized.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich explained that allocations were based on budgets at this time last year, which were reduced to \$18.4 million. With that reduction in budget, with a further forecast reduction of \$15 million after you got your allocations this year. No one did anything wrong. It is just the reality.

She asked Council to pay close attention that supported students are not taking more credits than they need. That is money that could be used to support another student.

Merit-based funding

Dean Bryant-Friedrich indicated that some programs use COGS funds and give students merit-based tuition waivers and asked Council for their input.

Susan Sochacki asked what is meant by merit and how is it earned.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich replied that it can have great potential with strong students, if it makes sense for COGS in general. Then you have to decide who is eligible. It is not the same across the board.

Tomer Avidor-Reiss sought to clarify his understanding that we can take funding and allocate unevenly?

Dean Bryant-Friedrich replied that she did not say she wanted this but is asking if Council for their input on whether they see it as beneficial.

Ken Kilbert asked if a student could receive \$1000 tuition waiver toward the total.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich said yes, if it is a strategic investment knowing that the student will pay difference.

Dan Hammel agreed that merit-based funding occurs, but pointed out that there is an opportunity cost.

Ozcan Sezer thought it more beneficial to support a student who cannot afford to pay tuition, perhaps in the form of paying four credits. It is especially important for a current student to stay in the program and be able to finish.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich stated that there is a balance. A potential pot for merit, requires consideration at the program level.

Kandace Williams stated that stipend is the biggest factor for her college in bringing in students for fall 2020.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich indicated that she has to look at how we are going to allocate stipends, Ph.D. vs. Masters. There is a different mission to training them. It overlaps in some programs and intersects in others. The key point I need to consider is that although PhDs are expensive, they are the drivers for our reputation. How do we decide the number that we should have at this institution to fill our mission? Professional doctorates, OT/PT, are also needed for the prestige of our institution.

Dan Hammel said it varies whether money can flow between stipend and tuition.

Cyndee Gruden said that we have been told different messages.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich pointed that there are two different budgets and cautioned against mixing because of the effects of a reduction.

Cyndee Gruden pointed out that last year's cut was made to tuition waivers.

Wissam Abbou-Alaiwi inquired about possibly reducing hours for Ph.D. students.

Cyndee Gruden replied that many programs are reducing supported hours where possible. There are mitigating factors such as meeting requirements for international students and those of financial aid. There is not an institution-wide approach due to reduction in SSI and fees. It does not matter in summer, unless financial aid is concerned. We wanted a policy that would allow one credit hour as full-time, post-candidacy, but the administration did not want that.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich also noted that since out-of-state tuition costs more, those who have changed residency should apply for Ohio residency as soon as they are eligible. Associate deans and program directors could look at this.

Samir Hefzy asked for clarification that 18% reduction was only for tuition last year. And he asked if another reduction is expected for next year.

Dean Bryant-Friedrich responded yes, the 18% reduction was only for tuition last year and that another reduction next year is likely.

Standing Committee Reports

Report of the Curriculum Committee

None.

Report of the Membership Committee

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Report on Graduate-Entry MSN, a new track in the MSN program, College of Nursing

A set of 15 proposals from the College of Nursing for their modified Graduate Entry Masters of Science in Nursing program was presented. Dr. Martha Sexton, Dr. Kelly Phillips, Dr. Susan Pocotte from the College of Nursing were invited to explain the rationale for satisfying suggestion of their accreditation agency and to meet the Ohio state approval timeline.

076	NCP	NU	Nursing	Population Focused Nursing	NURS 5000	
077	NCP	NU	Nursing	Health Assessment and Technical Competencies I	NURS 5001	
078	NCP	NU	Nursing	Physiology and Pathophysiology I	NURS 5002	
079	NCP	NU	Nursing	Professional Socialization	NURS 5003	
080	NCP	NU	Nursing	Nursing Care of Adults in Health and Illness	NURS 5004	
081	NCP	NU	Nursing	Health Assessment and Technical Competencies II	NURS 5005	
082	NCP	NU	Nursing	Physiology and Pathophysiology II	NURS 5006	
083	NCP	NU	Nursing	Pharmacology	NURS 5007	
084	NCP	NU	Nursing	Healthcare for Women and Children	NURS 5008	
085	NCP	NU	Nursing	Mental Health and Therapeutic Communications	NURS 5009	
086	NCP	NU	Nursing	Nursing Care of Adults with Complex Health Problems	NURS 6001	
087	NCP	NU	Nursing	Quality and Informatics in Healthcare	NURS 6002	
088	NCP	NU	Nursing	Experiencing Nursing Systems Practicum	NURS 6003	
089	NCP	NU	Nursing	Professional Nurse Competency	NURS 6004	
090	NPP	NU	Nursing	Graduate Entry Masters of Science in Nursing		new concentration to existing program

They thanked Council for allotting the time for this presentation. The NPP Graduate Entry Masters of Science is a new track within the master’s program. There is an undergraduate, masters and Doctor of Nursing Practice. The master’s level has several tracks. The Clinical Nurse Leader track is the one to be replaced by the new track Graduate Entry Track. We found that CNL may not be the best avenue for those who want just the graduate entry for the MSN. This is desired by nurses on the unit and others who wish to go into advanced practice track. Students in current CNL will finish out and students could be admitted to this track in fall 2020.

The other impetus for this proposal is the recent accreditor visit suggested we look at CNL therefore we have made changes for the new track. The urgency is the timeline of our governing body, the Ohio Board of Nursing. For fall 2020 implementation, they have to approve at their March meeting. They need documents 45 days in advance and we have to send by January 6, 2020. Additionally, the proposal requires state approval which requires review prior to their January 17, 2020 meeting.

There was a question about pharmacology course, we have changed the title to “pharmacology for entry level nurse”. We have to show accreditors and employers they have mandatory courses. We have spent a lot of time on SLOs.

[Susan Sochacki motioned from the floor to propose CNL be put on moratorium and the new track be approved for implementation in fall 2020. Patty Relue seconded.]

Chair Liu interjected that the Graduate Council Curriculum Committee (GCCC) works very hard, and have already dealt with 95 proposals. Even with a large accumulation of proposals, GCCC hold standard high. These courses have not been cleared at GCCC yet. There were many issues that got these proposals held up, and GCCC couldn’t get it done before this meeting.

We understand the urgency of issue. But we will be on winter break next week. Our GCCC colleagues would like to work with Nursing to make sure the proposals are in order and send the report to GC for a vote during the winter break. My understanding is that the GCCC recommends to GC. We have a motion on the floor that GC can vote after discussion.

Jerry Van Hoy noted that the GCEC can only approve during summer recess. Chair Liu clarified that the report/recommendations will come from the GCCC to GC. GC will vote electronically during the winter break before the holidays. Approvals will be counted.

Council Inquiries:

Explanation of the issues of the GCCC and whether those have been addressed by Nursing.

- New program or new track
- Clarification on the title of the pharmacology course.
- New hires involved?
- Nursing already has courses in Health Assessment, Pathophysiology, and Professional Socialization. Some of the proposals appear to be duplicates.

Responses from College of Nursing reps:

- New track, Graduate Entry MSN replacing the old Clinical Nurse Leader track.
- No new hires are involved. We already have the necessary expertise.
- The title of proposals is for clarity and due to accrediting requirements, external agencies to have multiple versions of courses that meet the needs of levels that one will practice and that also must be transcribed.
- NURS 5006 - Type of delivery not indicated on form. Kelly Phillips confirmed it is face to face. That box will be checked in CIM.

GCCC Chair Ozcan Sezer said that he would work with Nursing for any clarifications necessary.

Chair Liu stated that since the Graduate Council's next meeting is January 28th, and the College of Nursing must have its documents submitted to the state by January 6th, GC will have to agree to an electronic vote during the winter break before December 23rd as UT will be closed through January 1, 2020.

Susan Sochacki withdrew the first motion and made a new *[Motion for GC to agree to vote on the Nursing proposals as discussed today during winter break, for implementation in Fall 2020.]*
Seconded.

Quorum for electronic vote would be majority, 50% + 1.

Graduate Council voted by raise of hands to vote electronically during the winter break, prior to the holidays:

24	For
1	Opposed
1	Abstention

Motion passed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 2:04 pm.