

**The University of Akron**  
**Minutes of Graduate Council**  
**January 28, 2013**

The Graduate Council met on Monday, January 28, 2013, in the Student Union, Room 314. G. Newkome presided. Present were P. Allen, G. Chase, J. Goodell, X. Liang, R. Londraville, L. Smolen, P. Thomson, E. Wasserman, R. Willits, and B. Zhao.

Guests in attendance: H. Blake, K. Eshun, S. Jahan, and M. Tausig

GC Members Absent with Notice: S. Chiu, M. Graham, A. Joy, and P. Srivastava

### **Call to Order**

G. Newkome called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

### **Roll Call**

H. Blake recorded the attendance of those present.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the November 26, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

### **Comments**

M. Tausig shared the following information with Graduate Council members:

- Spring 2013 enrollment at the graduate-level is the same as last spring.
- Undergraduate enrollment is down approximately 4% this semester.
- Academic program review evaluations will be complete at the end of February and forwarded to the Provost with recommendations for disinvestment in some programs that are low quality. There are some departments that are problematic.
- Tried to encourage academic departments to advertise current graduate certificate programs or create new certificate programs. M. Tausig has drafted a new set of rules pertaining to graduate certificate programs. Seems nothing is currently being done with certificate programs.
- Modified current University Rules related to master's and doctoral degree programs to bring in line with current practice. Much of the language is very outdated and needed revised.
- The newly drafted rule for graduate certificate programs as well as the modified rules for the master's and doctoral programs will be sent to the Student Policy Committee for review and approval.

### **Committee Reports and Referrals**

Graduate Faculty Membership Committee – J. Goodell presented a log of nine graduate faculty applications as reviewed and approved by the committee. Approved by Council.

Eric R. Brisker  
John Senko  
D. Dane Quinn

James B. Thomson  
Matthew D. Shawkey

Andrew Thomas  
Guo-Xiang Wang

Constance B. Bouchard  
Celal Batur

Curriculum Committee – X. Liang presented a log of 42 curriculum proposals that were reviewed and approved by the committee. Following is a list of these proposals: A&S-ENGL-12-4632, A&S-POLSC-12-4173, A&S-POLSC-12-4172, EDUC-CURR-11-1152, EDUC-CURR-11-1149, CHP-SPLANG-12-4346, CHP-SPLANG-12-4347, CHP-SPLANG-12-4353, CHP-SPLANG-12-4360, CHP-SPLANG-12-4365, CHP-SPLANG-12-4368, CHP-SPLANG-12-4369, CHP-SPLANG-12-4374, CHP-SPLANG-12-4379, CHP-SPLANG-12-4382, CHP-SPLANG-12-4385, CHP-SPLANG-12-4388, CHP-SPLANG-12-4458, CHP-SPLANG-12-4459, CHP-SPLANG-12-4501, CHP-SPLANG-12-4508, CHP-SPLANG-12-

4509, CHP-SPLANG-12-4553, CHP-12-4554, CHP-SPLANG-12-4726, CHP-SPLANG-12-4758, CHP-NUDIET-12-4306, CHP-NUDIET-12-5162, CHP-NUDIET-12-5163, EDUC-COUNS-11-0556, EDUC-EDFOUND-11-1016, EDUC-EDFOUND-12-4446, EDUC-CURR-11-0153, EDUC-CURR-11-1717, EDUC-CURR-12-3167, EDUC-CURR-12-4091, EDUC-CURR-12-4094, EDUC-CURR-12-4101, EDUC-CURR-12-4102, EDUC-CURR-12-4232, NURS-NURIN-12-2531, and NURS-NURIN-12-2632.

Approved by Council.

X. Liang shared with Council some concerns she has with the proposal system, and stated that there is such a high volume of proposals to review with only six committee members, one of which recently resigned due to his frustration with this system. She wonders if there is a better way to sort all proposals so that one only has to see what he/she needs to review.

She also expressed her concern with proposals for current face-to-face courses to be offered online. Much of what is being reflected in proposals is too simplified. For example, in some cases proposals only ask students to do the assigned work and turn in course assignments through the drop box or email. X. Liang stated that there should be much more to online courses than this. She has initiated conversation with the Distance Learning Review Committee to determine what minimum qualifications should be required when proposing courses that will be offered online or are going from face-to-face to online.

Student Policy Committee – No report.

### **Old Business**

Continuation of discussion related to graduate education, research productivity, and program evaluation.

### **New Business**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Smolen, Ph.D.  
Secretary