

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
March 7, 2017

The Graduate Council met at 9:30am in the Memorial Tower Conference Room with the following members present: Adams, Chance, Frick, Kelso, Lane (ex-officio), Massé (ex-officio), Page, Perry, and Pojman. Absent members were Cai, de Queiroz, Eades, Gansle, Lee (ex-officio), Lindau, Lockridge, Marchand, Mocan, Ortner and Porter.

Minutes of February 20, 2017

There was no quorum; therefore, the minutes from the February 20, 2017 meeting will be voted on at the next Graduate Council meeting.

Dean's Report

PS21: Graduate Assistantships: Massé discussed the need to revise PS21. Last fall the Provost agreed to observe the 2004 stipend amount included in PS21 and mandate that graduate assistantship stipends have a minimum of \$10,800. The stipend is based on a 20 hour a week graduate assistantship on an academic appointment. Graduate assistants are still required to pay semester fees and health insurance out of their stipend. Revisions previously submitted to Academic Affairs have not been made. Academic Affairs has requested that the Graduate Council review PS21 and submit revisions. The Graduate Council will continue to discuss this throughout the semester.

3MT at Conference of Southern Graduate Schools: Lane mentioned that the LSU three-minute thesis winner, Julie Butler in Biology, made it to the finals at the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools.

Academic Affairs Report

No report.

Chairs Report

Graduate Certificate in Archival Studies: An email ballot was sent to all Graduate Council members regarding the Graduate Certificate in Archival Studies. The council voted to approve the proposal.

Old Business

Academic Bankruptcy: Massé discussed that the Academic Bankruptcy policy was initially passed at the previous Graduate Council meeting. Then the Graduate Council requested some research on peer universities. The research has not been done due to lack of staff.

A recommendation was made to change the requirement to two years. The undergraduate policy is five years and the current proposal indicated three years for graduate students. It would be the department's decision to readmit the graduate student after the leave of absence. This policy is only for graduate students who were dropped from the Graduate School for having a GPA under a 3.0.

An email ballot will be sent to the council members, since the proposal is in the best interest of graduate students. The council will vote on changing the timeframe to two years and on the overall policy.

Ad Hoc Graduate Council members: Massé discussed adding Ad Hoc members to the Graduate Council. The purpose would be to have diversity on the council and not all full professors. This would give the council a broader range of knowledge and different perspectives from assistant and associate professors. An additional four to six representatives would be added and two graduate student representatives would be appointed. There will be more discussion when there is a full quorum.

New Business

Plant Pathology change in credit hours: Lawrence Datnoff was present to discuss the proposal for Plant Pathology to reduce the number of required credit hours. The current requirements are 59-60 credit hours. The college's course and curricula committee met to discuss reducing the required hours to 56-57 credit hours. The new requirement meets the SACS requirements of at least 54 hours. An email ballot will be sent to the Graduate Council members since a quorum was not present.

Semester/credit hour conversions for reinstatements, applications, etc.: Massé discussed graduate students who are on probation or reinstated on probation usually have one semester to bring their GPAs to a 3.0 or above. For nontraditional students and online students, this usually takes more than one semester or module. She has been stating that a student has to bring GPA to a 3.0 or above in the next nine credit hours. Another issue is that on-campus students can decide not to enroll for two consecutive semesters before reapplying to the Graduate School. For online students this is for three modules. Should it be longer for online students to match the length of time as on-campus students?

Reporting of enrollment was separated by campus vs online. Now the Graduate School is reporting the totals combined to better reflect the enrollment of graduate students.

This will be discussed at a future Graduate Council meeting.

Subcommittees: Perry suggested having subcommittees to research each proposal and to bring the proposal to the Graduate Council for discussion. The first subcommittee will discuss dean's representatives. The subcommittee will include Massé, Perry, and Pojman.

Executive Session

Standing Committee Reports


Promotion and Tenure Committee: No report.

Graduate Faculty: No report.

Awards Committee: No report.

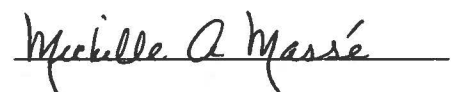
The meeting adjourned at 10:27am.

Recorded by:



Chantelle Collier, Assistant to the Dean

Approved by:



Michelle Massé, Dean Graduate School