MINUTES
The Graduate Council
January 20, 2016
Johnson Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Mariah Acton, Susan Anderson (ex officio), Shankha Chakraborty, Krista Chronister, Stephen Frost, Leonardo Garcia-Pabon, Tony Herman, Sara Hodges (ex officio), Laura Jacek (ex officio), Alison Kwok, Scott Pratt (ex officio); John Russial, Mark Watson (ex officio) and Ben Yang

Members Absent: Bruce Blonigen (ex officio), Ron Bramhall (ex officio), Hank Childs, Alexandre Dossin, Kaori Idemaru, Thomas Ptak, David Riley

Graduate School Staff in Attendance: Kellie Geldreich, Marcia Walker

The meeting was called to order at 3:35pm. The November 18, 2015 minutes were unanimously approved as distributed.

New Business

Architecture and Allied Arts (AAA) Sports Product Design Proposal

Graduate Council members discussed the proposed M.S. program in Sports Product Design. Associate Professor Russial asked about the language of the proposal which states, “we are planning to offer an Interdisciplinary Studies: Individualized Program in Sports Product Design beginning in Fall 2016 through the Graduate School.” Associate Dean Hodges replied that this language in the proposal will be removed upon Graduate Council approval of this Proposal, and the first cohort of AAA students will begin in fall 2016.

Associate Professor Russial noted that there seemed to be a comprehensive list of requirements in the application process and wondered what students are being targeted for admission. He would also like the proposers to articulate the difference between this master’s degree and the undergraduate degree offered in AAA.

Associate Professor Herman asked if any of the courses in this Proposal would be taught in the Eugene campus. Associate Dean Hodges responded that all of the courses will be taught in Portland.

Associate Dean Hodges noted that the faculty/student ratio overall is 1/20. However, there will be two faculty members teaching when students are in studio classes and the ratio will then be 1/13.

Professor Chakraborty wanted to know if the program will be able to meet the target enrollment of 20 students per year.

Graduate Student Acton asked if the faculty director will be based in Portland. She noted the importance of having faculty located in Portland who are available to see students on a drop-in basis. Academic Affairs Manager Geldreich responded that the director is one of two full-time faculty who will be based in Portland.

The following guests then joined the Graduate Council discussion
• Roxi J. Thoren, Associate Dean Academic Affairs, Architecture and Allied Arts
• Trygve Faste, Assistant Professor, Product Design
• Susan Sokolowski, Associate Professor, Product Design
• Wonhee Arndt, Assistant Professor, Product Design
• John Arndt, Associate Professor, Product Design

Associate Professor Herman asked the guests about student interest in this program. Associate Professor Sokolowski replied that 50 people from design-related programs across the world have
indicated on the AAA website that they are interested in this program. She added that the first-year cohort will be 20 students. Associate Professor Arndt stated 40 percent of their undergraduate students have shown interest in the M.S. in Sports Product Design. Assistant Professor Arndt added that there have been many inquiries about this program and AAA is ready to implement it.

Associate Dean Hodges asked the guests to distinguish between AAA’s undergraduate program and the M.S. in Sports Product Design. Associate Professor Arndt replied that the undergraduate program has a broader based focus in design, whereas this program is more focused in sports product design.

Graduate Student Acton asked where the program’s faculty will be located and how many of those faculty will be based in Portland. Associate Professor Sokolowski stated that she lives in Portland, and it is common for other faculty in AAA to commute between the Eugene and Portland campuses. Assistant Professor Arndt added that in the second year of the program, an additional faculty member will hired who will be based in Portland.

After the guests left the meeting, Associate Professor Herman moved to approve the proposed M.S. program in Sports Product Design. Professor Chakraborty seconded the motion. The Graduate Council unanimously voted to approve the proposal.

Educational Methodology, Policy, and Leadership (EMPL) Quantitative Research Methods Specialization Proposal

Graduate Council members discussed the proposed specialization in Quantitative Research Methods. Graduate Student Acton asked if this specialization is open to doctoral students in any area. Academic Affairs Manager Geldreich responded that the priority will be students from EMPL, the College of Education, and then doctoral students from other areas, providing there is room in the classes.

Graduate Student Acton wanted to know if this specialization will preclude other UO departments from using the same title. Associate Professor Herman asked if the title should be changed to Quantitative Research Methods in Education. Associate Dean Hodges responded that a broader title, not limited to the College of Education, might appeal to students outside education who wanted the specialization.

Assistant Professor Girvan asked if a department who uses a title for a specialization has a monopoly on using that title, or if the same title can be used by another department. He asked about having proposers of a specialization coordinate with other departments who offer similar classes. Associate Professor Frost noted that there are a lot of quantitative research methods that aren’t statistical; for example, in Computer Information Sciences and the College of Business.

Gina Biancarosa, Associate Professor and Joseph Stevens, Professor, Educational Methodology, Policy, and Leadership, joined the Graduate Council to discuss EMPL’s proposed specialization.

Associate Dean Hodges told the guests that the Graduate Council was concerned that the title of the specialization was generic and that other departments might want to offer a specialization in quantitative research methods. She noted that one solution might be to change the title to Quantitative Research Methods in Education.

Associate Professor Biancarosa responded that the motivation to offer this specialization goes beyond EMPL. She noted that students from across campus take these courses. Professor Stevens added that in the past he has worked with others across campus to develop these courses, and he hasn’t found other departments anxious to offer a similar specialization.

After the guests left the meeting, Associate Professor Chronister moved to approve the proposed specialization in Quantitative Research Methods. Associate Professor Frost seconded the motion. The Graduate Council unanimously voted to approve the proposal.

UO Graduate School First Fellowships

Dean Pratt distributed a handout with information about Graduate School First-Year Fellowships. He stated that doctoral funding and funding for graduate programs has been tied to undergraduate
enrollment at the UO. This has resulted in graduate funding going up and down according to undergraduate needs. In conversations with the Provost and President, it was agreed this type of funding couldn’t continue if the UO is to remain a research institution competitive with other AAU institutions.

As a result, the Graduate School is adding significant funding to support PhD education beginning Fall 2016. The amount of $800,000 will be used to fund about 40 First-Year Fellowships and $200,000 will be used to help our graduate departments and programs reach their recruiting goals by increasing the resources available for Promising Scholar Awards and to support campus visits, offer one-time summer funding packages, and offer increased one-time funding packages or “top-off” funds.

First-Year Fellowships are intended to increase the number of funded PhD students in a department over the number of students funded through regular GT or GRF appointments. These fellowships will be distributed by the Graduate School to selected graduate programs based on an assessment of programs in terms of degree completion rate, time-to-degree, admission selectivity, percentage of admitted students enrolled, demographic diversity of the program, GRE scores, and program quality as reported by students on the Graduate Student Experience Survey. Programs rated most highly with respect to high completion rates, low time-to-degree, low selectivity and yield to enrolled students, diversity, and positive student experience reports will be selected to receive fellowships. The size of the application pool will also be considered.

**Old Business**

None.

**Updates/Announcements**

**Graduate Student Research Forum**

Associate Dean Hodges reminded Council members of the Graduate Student Research Forum to be held on February 26, 2016 from 10:00am to 4:00pm at the Ford Alumni Center. She reported that over 100 submissions have been received. Graduate Council members may be asked to participate as judges in the Forum.

**The “Write Time”**

Associate Dean Hodges announced the "Write Time" offered by the Graduate School. Graduate students are invited to attend a weekly writing group on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Graduate Student Center in Susan Campbell Hall. Graduate students are invited to drop in any time between 8:30am to 11:00am and to bring their writing project. Students sign in with their writing goals for the session.

**Adjourn**

The Council adjourned at 5:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Krista Chronister  
Graduate Council Secretary