MINUTES
The Graduate Council
February 20, 2013
Johnson Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Barbara Altmann (ex officio), Cynthia Anderson, Marcin Bownik, Patricia Dewey, Kimberly Espy (ex officio), Jeffrey Ewing, Sara Hodges, Ruth Keele (ex officio), Joseph Lowndes, Andrew Marcus (ex officio), Brian McWhorter, Sandra Morgen (ex officio), Andrew Pokorny, Cecilia Enjuto Rangel, Mia Tuan (ex officio), Mark Watson (ex officio), Frances White,

Members Absent: Michele Henney, Debra Merskin, Dorothee Ostmeier, Bish Sen, Alia Yasen

Graduate School Staff in Attendance: Kassy Fisher, Jered Nagel, Kyle Reynolds

The meeting was called to order at 3:32pm. The January 16, 2013 minutes were approved as distributed.

Old Business

EMPL On-Line Graduate Certificate

Professor Kathleen Scalise participated in the meeting via telephone and addressed Council questions about EMPL’s proposed certificate program in Educational Technology and Virtual Schools, the Online Learning Certificate, and approval of permanent course numbers.

Professor Scalise first addressed the substantive nature of the academic courses in the Foundations sequence (those with proposed numbers 655, 656, 657, and 658).

- Course No. 655 – A textbook is being created at Columbia for use in this course
- Course No. 656 – Computational thinking, a robust foundations course
- Course No. 657 – Curriculum Design – best practices for technology infused into education – lots of peer-review journals and it is a hands-on course
- Course No. 658 – Policy focus – technology/virtual options in the US; e.g. blended learning or fuller virtual

Dean Morgen noted that there were no syllabi provided in the version of the proposal we received. Professor Scalise stated that she would send Dean Morgen the syllabi for distribution to the Graduate Council. There was some discussion about the need for greater evidence of the rigor of the courses. Professor Scalise explained the process for determination of rigorous course content and noted that the College of Education (COE) faculty unanimously approved this proposal, including attention to this matter.

Professor Anderson asked how the program would be assessed, how courses would be assessed, and in general, what quality-control measures would be in place. Professor Scalise stated that there is a course evaluation process and peer observation within the COE. In addition, all experimental courses are reviewed in departmental faculty meetings.

Dean Morgen then asked about faculty capacity. Professor Scalise pointed out that there are no new courses: six are currently taught by tenured faculty in the College of Education, one in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, and a practicum with a recent PhD supervisor.

Regarding the role of the Grad Council re: the parallel process for program and course approval (by the Grad Council and the Committee on Courses, Professor White reported on the discussion by the Committee on Courses. She stated that there was some back and forth. The question for this body is, “How does this fit within other certificates regarding rigor?”

New Business
Move of Historic Preservation Master’s Program to Portland

Professor Kingston Heath, Director, and Crissy Lindsey, Office Coordinator of Historic Preservation in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, addressed the Graduate Council about the proposal to move the existing Masters of Science Program in Historic Preservation from the UO Eugene campus to the UO’s Portland campus (effective Fall 2014). The undergraduate minor will continue to be offered in Eugene.

Professor Heath stated that the size and quality of the Historic Preservation program supports this move. The program is highly regarded and rated nationally. The Historic Preservation program has expanded cohorts from 5-7 to 15-16, plus undergraduate minors. Currently, there is only one space for an office and no classrooms. In Portland, there are more resources available, including: human, space, and facilities, as well as more building stock to preserve, review, and study.

Professor Heath and Crissy Lindsey addressed the following questions raised by the Graduate Council:

- 400/500 level classes—would 400 level classes be held at the Eugene campus and 500 level classes be in Portland? Professor Heath noted that there would be video conferencing with travel to Portland for midterms, etc. The undergraduate minors would stay in Eugene.

- Why are there a large number of 510 classes offered? The program is in the process of regularizing many of these courses. Professor White indicated that there are tutorials about how to go about this process to better ensure success with minimum back and forth. Then takes two terms to approve). Nine adjuncts, plus Kingston = faculty – makes faculty meetings difficult and some of these institutional processes fall between the cracks. They recognize and plan to correct this.

- The Portland faculty are adjunct professors. What is the plan for the future? Professor Heath noted that six of the nine are in Portland. Associate faculty from other programs are retiring now or will be retiring soon. The proposal is to get another faculty line within the next three years to be based in Portland. Professor Heath will remain in Eugene until he can pass it down. The endowment that will fund this move is considerable. Likely resources will enable more faculty hiring for tenure related position(s).

- How will the Historic Preservation program serve continuing students who are based in Eugene at the time of the move? Professor Heath responded that students who are presently enrolled in the program will stay on the Eugene campus and will complete their degree on the Eugene campus. For admissions in 2013, students will spend one year on the Eugene campus and one year on the Portland campus.

- Professor Heath stated that the program is looking at collaborating with Reed College and Portland State University to offer undergraduate minors in Portland.

The Graduate Council can approve the move of the Historic Preservation Master’s Program to Portland with comments or recommendations; e.g. to have an in-house review in five years. Professor Dewey moved to approve with comments, Professor Enjuto Rangel seconded the motion, and the Graduate Council unanimously approved the move of the Historic Preservation Master’s Program to Portland, with comments. Comments: There are non-tenure track faculty (NTTF) in Portland and tenure track faculty (TTF) in Eugene. What method is there to ensure that NTTF are not exploited; encourage approval of additional TTF, encourage five-year review; new CBA will limit use of adjuncts as there needs to be solid long-term faculty in place.

Proposal for a New Graduate Specialization: Sustainable Business Practices

Professor Jennifer Howard-Grenville of the Lundquist College of Business (LCB) addressed the Graduate Council about the proposal for a new graduate specialization, Sustainable Business Practices. Professor Howard-Grenville noted that all of the courses in the proposal are existing courses, so this is actually codifying what LCB has already been doing.
Professor Howard-Grenville addressed the following questions raised by the Council:

- Would you say that this is just an opportunity to transcript what has already been done? Professor Howard-Grenville responded yes, and that the Sustainable Business Practices is the first of four centers of excellence to which all MBAs affiliate.

- Is this proposal specialization-worthy? The specialization would consist of 18 credits in courses, then a 9 credit practicum and a 1 credit seminar. The minimum required number of courses for a specialization is 16 credits.

- The Council asked about the language in the proposal which talks about the program director’s approval to allow students to take three classes outside LCB in lieu of three courses on the list. Professor Howard-Grenville agreed that this needs clarification as three courses would be half of the total needed for the specialization. The Council suggested that LCB create a list of viable courses that could be taken outside LCB which would be put in the proposal as well as a maximum number of outside credits and a minimum number of inside credits.

**Three Minute Thesis and RIGE Research Week**

Kyle Reynolds, Coordinator of Student Affairs, of the Graduate School described the Three Minute Thesis competition as an academic competition developed by the University of Queensland, Australia, for research students. The exercise develops academic, presentation, and research communication skills and supports the development of graduate students’ capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes in a language appropriate to an intelligent but non-specialist audience. The trademarked name of this event is Three Minute Thesis, but students may present research they are conducting for a thesis, dissertation, or terminal project. The UO will be holding its first Three Minute Thesis competition in Spring of 2013. The championship will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 during RIGE Research Week.

The deadline to register is Friday, April 5, 2013. More information can be found on the Graduate School website.

**Deans’ Updates**

**Innovations in Graduate Education – Track 1**

- Food Studies: An Interdisciplinary Graduate Specialization
- Graduate Specialization in Culture, Identity, and Politics
- Unlocking the Biological Basis of Mind: The Graduate Specialization in Neuroscience
- Specialization in Spanish Language Psychological Service and Research

**Graduate Council Decennial Review**

Dean Morgen, Professor Nelson, and Professor Hodges participated in the Decennial Review of the Graduate Council by the Academic Senate.

**Adjourn**

The Council adjourned at 5:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecilia Enjuto Rangel