MINUTES
The Graduate Council
September 23, 2015
Susan Campbell Hall

Members Present: Adell Amos (ex officio) via phone; Susan Anderson (ex officio), Bruce Blonigen (ex officio), Shankka Chakraborty, Hank Childs, Krista Chronister, Stephen Frost, Tory Herman, Sara Hodges (ex officio), Kaori Iademaru, Laura Jacek (ex officio), Scott Pratt (ex officio); John Russial, and Ben Yang

Members Absent: Mariah Acton, Alexandre Dossin, Ron Bramhall (ex officio), Leonardo Garcia-Pabon, Thomas Ptak, Alison Kwok, David Riley, Mark Watson (ex officio),

Graduate School Staff in Attendance: Kellie Geldreich, Marcia Walker

The meeting was called to order at 2:35pm. The meeting opened with introductions of those in attendance.

Nomination and Election of Graduate Council Officers

Chair of the Graduate Council: Associate Professor Chronister nominated Associate Professor Herman for the Chair position. Associate Professor Russial seconded the nomination motion. The motion passed unanimously to elect Associate Professor Herman as Chair of the Graduate Council.

Secretary of the Graduate Council: Associate Professor Herman nominated Associate Professor Chronister for the Secretary position and Professor Chakraborty seconded the nomination motion. The motion passed unanimously to elect Associate Professor Chronister as Secretary of the Graduate Council.

Graduate Council—What It Is and What It Does

Review of Charge/Mission/Procedures of the Graduate Council

Associate Dean Hodges briefly reviewed the UO Senate’s Charge to the Graduate Council, noting that in addition to its advisory role, the Graduate Council is responsible for:

- Providing rules and procedures for the effective administration and application of faculty policies and regulations;
- Recommending changes in, or additions to, the policies and major regulations of the Graduate School;
- Providing for the maintenance of high standards of graduate instruction;
- Considering all proposals for changes in courses carrying graduate credit and to present its recommendations to the Committee on Courses;
- Participating in decennial Program Review; and
- Providing an annual written report submitted by the Committee Chair to the Secretary of the University Senate.

Graduate Council Committees

Associate Dean Hodges outlined Graduate Council Committee service. Council members will receive an email asking them to submit their first, second, and third choices for Committee assignments.

New Business

Concurrent Faculty or Staff/Graduate Student Status Policy

A handout of the proposed revised language to the Concurrent Faculty or Staff/Graduate Student Status policy was distributed to Council members. Associate Dean Hodges explained that the new language will clarify the policy that one cannot be a faculty member and graduate student in the same department.
Dean Pratt explained that the OARs governing this policy are no longer in effect, so the language would need to be revised in any event. Kellie Geldreich, Academic Affairs Manager in the Graduate School, stated that under the new policy Officers of Administration who wish to pursue a degree in the department in which they hold an appointment may be allowed to by petition.

Associate Professor Tory Herman moved to approve the revised Concurrent Faculty or Staff/Graduate Student Status policy. Hank Childs seconded the motion. The motion to approve the revised Concurrent Faculty or Staff/Graduate Student policy was approved by unanimous vote.

**Law School Grading Policy**

A handout of the proposed changes to the Law School Course Repeat Policy was distributed to Council members. The Law School is asking the Graduate Council to approve the revised Law School Course Repeat Policy. The Law School faculty discussed, voted on, and approved the following repeat policy at the December 5, 2014 faculty meeting:

A student who receives a grade of “D” or “D+” in a course may repeat the course with the approval of the faculty member who will be teaching the repeated course. If a student repeats a course,

- The repeated course and the grade received will appear on the student’s transcript.
- The repeated course will not count toward the total number of credits the student needs to graduate.
- The grade received in the repeated course will not be included in any computation of GPA, in any calculation of class rank, or in any calculation related to academic standing.

Associate Professor John Russial moved to approve the proposed changes to the Law School Repeat Policy. Associate Professor Stephen Frost seconded the motion. The motion to approve the proposed changes to the Law School Repeat Policy was approved by unanimous vote.

**Discussion Items**

Dean Pratt met with UO President Schill who believes that graduate education is a priority at the UO. This means that the Graduate School can expect more support, and doctoral programs and departments can expect more support as well. With these resources coming, one of the goals is to hire new faculty and to add new doctoral programs. The Graduate Council will be involved with academic assessment of these new programs.

Dean Pratt noted that in growing more programs, departments will need to consider whether there will be careers for these students when they graduate.

Associate Professor Russial asked if there was also a commitment to support students who are pursuing master’s degrees as well. Dean Pratt stated that while the UO President wants to increase the number of Ph.Ds, this won’t happen without an enriched department that includes master’s students.

**Adjourn**

The Council adjourned at 4:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Krista Chronister
Graduate Council Secretary