The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm. The October 19, 2016 Graduate Council minutes were approved as distributed.

New Business

Dean Recommended Items:

• Counseling Psychology Doctoral Program – Change of Credit Hour Requirements
• Prevention Science PhD and MS Programs – Change of Credit Hour Requirements

Associate Professor Bovilsky moved to approve the curriculum change to reduce the required credits within the Counseling Psychology doctoral program and the Prevention Science doctoral and master’s program. Associate Professor Frost seconded the motion. The Graduate Council unanimously voted to approve both Dean Recommended items.

Educational Methodology, Policy, and Leadership (EMPL) D.Ed. Hybrid Proposal

Graduate Council members discussed the EMPL proposal. Associate Dean Hodges stated that the intention of EMPL is to expand the D.Ed. degree to students in geographical areas beyond the UO campus, and noted the demand in California for this degree.

Associate Professor Yang asked if students in the program need to be Oregon residents. Academic Affairs Manager Geldreich responded that the UO has reciprocity agreements with other states including California. Therefore, students in this program would not need to be Oregon residents.

Associate Professor Russial noted that the proposal states that no additional faculty will be needed for this program expansion. Associate Dean Hodges responded that the D.Ed. does not require a dissertation and that EMPL faculty have said that they have more capacity right now than demand.

Graduate Student King asked if these courses would need to be approved by the Committee on Courses, and Associate Dean Hodges replied that these are courses that already exist, so no approval is needed. Graduate Student King stated that it would be interesting to have outcome measures. She noted that she has heard anecdotal reports from students that they do not like the virtual technology format of classes.

Nancy Heapes, Director of Distributed Programs and Program Development, and Joanna Smith, Lecturer from EMPL joined the Graduate Council meeting to discuss the proposal. Director Heapes distributed a handout describing the proposal to expand the D.Ed. degree beyond Oregon.

Associate Professor Bovilsky asked if the faculty could accommodate the expansion of the D.Ed. program. Director Heapes responded that currently they are under capacity, so it should not be a concern.
Associate Professor Bovilsky asked if any of the classes are also offered face to face in classrooms. Director Heapes stated that students and faculty are face to face in real time but they are not in the same room. She noted that there did not seem to be a difference and by offering the courses in the online format, classes can be offered throughout the state of Oregon and other geographic locations.

Associate Professor Frost asked if there was a difference in quality of classes offered in person versus classes offered this way. Director Heapes responded that it depends upon the quality of the faculty. She explained that this format allows faculty to speak to small groups, which encourages student engagement.

Associate Professor Russial asked about the interaction between student and faculty when writing dissertations. Lecturer Smith said that it is the same as if they were meeting in person. Using a shared screen technology, faculty can see the material that the student is working on. Because there is the option for other students to observe the interaction, this method can also be a learning tool for others.

Professor Garcia-Pabon asked what geographic locations these students would come from. Director Heapes replied that the UO has a partnership with Orange County, California. Orange County has a more diverse population than Oregon, and a cohort with students from Oregon and California would result in a larger demographic with a more diverse experience for students.

Graduate Student King asked about the rate of students who graduate. Director Heapes noted that in the admissions process, advisors and students are purposefully matched, resulting in a graduation rate of approximately 98 percent. Most students finish in three to four years.

Associate Professor Russial asked if students would be working full time in addition to completing their D.Ed. in three years. Director Heapes said that she advises students that this will be like working another job. She noted that these professionals are accustomed to long, extended days, and the program allows one month off each year for students to recharge.

The guests from EMPL then left the Graduate Council meeting, and Council members discussed the proposal.

Associate Professor Proudfoot stated that it was difficult to believe that the hybrid delivery experience could be the same as an in-person class experience. Associate Dean Stabile noted that it is important not to assume that virtual classes are different from those offered in person.

Graduate Student O'Donnell-Davidson remarked that in his experience the most difficult class format is having students participate on-screen combined with students participating in person.

Senior Vice Provost Anderson noted that people continue to learn to do things in different ways. She noted that this population of students needs this type of program. Because this method has been successful for EMPL, it makes sense to expand this program.

Associate Professor Bovilsky moved to approve the proposal for hybrid delivery of the Doctor of Education degree program in Educational Leadership effective fall 2017. Associate Professor Frost seconded the motion. The Graduate Council voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

**Motion to Approve Graduate Student Participation on Admission Committees Interim Policy**

Associate Dean Hodges noted that currently there exists a wide range of practices by departments regarding participation of graduate students in the graduate admissions process. A motion today would make the interim policy in place a permanent one.

Associate Professor Bovilsky stated that she was concerned with graduate students evaluating other graduate students.

Associate Professor Proudfoot noted that in the Mathematics department graduate students who serve on admissions committees contribute to the discussion but do not have a vote. Associate Dean Hodges stated that the Psychology Department reviews about 600 applications each year, and a group of graduate students and faculty give the applications a first look. Larger groups of Psychology faculty then review a smaller group of applications. Associate Dean Hodges said that graduate students on the admissions committee were more likely to be generous in the screening process.
Director Cherry noted that the policy states that graduate students may serve on graduate admission committees at the discretion of the department faculty.

Professor Wang asked if instead of a uniform policy, it might be better to let each department decide its own policy.

Associate Professor Bovilisky stated that it could hurt students entering a program if students on the admissions committee had previously been critical of them. Graduate Student King stated that it could also make the department more unified. Associate Professor Bovilisky stated that departments want diversity, with different ideas and perspectives. She also wondered if this type of service is fair to graduate students who should be concentrating on their studies.

Dean Pratt noted that the faculty are responsible for academic matters, and it is the faculty’s responsibility to decide which students to admit.

Associate Professor Frost thinks that it is good that the policy requires training for graduate students who serve on admissions committees.

Associate Professor Yang voiced concern that graduate students serving on admissions committees have access to other students’ files. Associate Dean Hodges reported that FERPA rules apply differently to applicants, who are not yet students.

Professor Garcia-Pabon suggested that the policy should be stated in reverse of the current policy; that is, students should not be allowed to serve unless these conditions are met.

Associate Professor Bovilisky stated that she did not believe there was enough information to vote on the policy at this time. Associate Dean Hodges stated that this could be tabled, leaving the current policy in place.

Dean Pratt asked Council members to formulate the type of information needed for this decision. Suggestions included finding out information about:

- Limits on the time graduate students serve on admissions committees
- If departments allow graduate students on their admissions committee and what is their process
- If students who have served on admissions committees find it valuable to them
- Ask if students think the process is done well or if they think it is abusive.

**Old Business**

None.

**Updates and Announcements**

**MS in Finance – Previously Approved Change to Start Summer 2017**

The Registrar has approved the summer 2017 start for the MS in Finance.

**Graduate Council Awards Committee**

Associate Dean Hodges reported that there might need to be a restructuring of Graduate Council members’ service on awards committees due to an increase in applicants.

**Metrics for Allocating First-Year Fellowships**

Dean Pratt reported that an email would be coming out regarding graduate funding for next year. There will be $200,000 for recruitment support. Of that amount, $100,000 will fund applicants’ travel, top-off
awards, or summer funding for graduate students. The other $100,000 will fund Promising Scholar awards. In addition, $200,000 will be awarded as bridge money for first year fellowships.

President Schill wants to increase the number of Ph.D. students at the University. There will be a staged process to reduce funding to Master’s students, that would then be redirected towards supporting doctoral students. Dean Pratt noted that terminal Master’s programs would not be affected.

**Date Change for December Graduate Council Meeting**

Dean Hodges reminded Council members that the meeting in December will take place on December 14, 2016.

Graduate Council adjourned at 5:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Krista Chronister
Graduate Council Secretary