

GRADUATE PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting #6

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 EMS E371 - 9:00 a.m.

Present: Professors R. Amano, J. Boyland (GFC Rep.), J. Jang, Q. Liao, D. Yu, E. Munson (ex officio),
I. Suzuki, B. Warras (Recording Secretary), N. Brown
Excused: H. Lopez; W. Otieno (sabbatical)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

- I. Announcement – Materials Science department has updated their QE Guidelines which the committee accepted; Use of ‘Key path’ as an approved vendor is still under consideration (Munson); QE updated letters for Pass/Fail (one day) is officially listed on the website (Munson).
- II. Automatic Consent Business – Minutes from November 15, 2017 – Approved as written
- III. Old Business –

A. “Initial” Advisor / “Research” Advisor –

From Computer Science department meeting: It was moved and seconded (McRoy/Hosseini):

Whereas -

The primary mission of a university is the education of students; and according to UWM Policies and Procedures, “the title ‘Teaching Assistant’ (TA) is used for graduate students enrolled in the University of Wisconsin System who are regularly assigned teaching and related responsibilities (other than manual or clerical responsibilities) under the supervision of a member of the faculty. (and) ... teaching assistants are counted as instructional staff”; and

Whereas -

Requiring a TA to also serve as a research assistant by maintaining a particular faculty member as his or her major advisor does not serve any direct educational goal (for either the TA or the students he or she helps teach); and

Whereas -

Linking the position of a TA to having a particular faculty advisor for his/her dissertation may lead to several negative consequences including: devaluing the importance of quality teaching, increasing the likelihood of personal conflict among faculty members competing for TAs to support their research, reducing the academic opportunities of graduate students to freely choose their advisor or research path, and making it harder for the CEAS to recruit and retain the highest quality graduate students;

Be it resolved -

That Computer Science faculty propose CEAS adopt a college-wide policy disallowing making teaching positions contingent on the student's maintaining a particular faculty member as their academic (e.g. dissertation) advisor.

The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Move/Second (Boyland/Suzuki) GPSC endorse the Computer Science resolution by forwarding it to CEAS faculty. Motion passed. Resolution will be on the agenda of next faculty meeting.

B. Bridge Funding – CS Department approves current procedure. No other departments responded.

IV. New Business –

A. Course Action Request

CS537 Introduction to Operating Systems Change
Move/Second (Suzuki/Yu) to approve. Motion passed. Change approved.

B. Propose expanding the limit of Topics courses from 9 credits to 12 or 15 credits
[Current language: Retakeable with change in topic to max of 9 cr.]
Discussed options: Give each Topics course a unique number after being offered twice successfully; Expand the number of allowed Topics; Take no action

C. CEAS Graduate Seminar – Listed in Major or Minor

Move/Second (Boyland/Jang) To not allow the Graduate Seminar to be listed in a student's Major or Minor area. Decision based on previous Elective requirements which were changed when Grad Seminar was required. In addition it is a 'cross listed' course. Motion passed.

D. Confirm due date for Qualifying Exam results and GPSC QE review meeting
Results will be due in the Graduate Programs Office by Noon on Tuesday February 20 –
GPSC will meet to review recommendations on Wednesday February 21, 2018.

E. Graduate Program Website Update – Professor Amano indicated the college guidelines for Qualifying Exam and accompanying Department criteria is not easily located. Associate Dean Munson will oversee a "general clean-up" of the issues.
<http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/engineering/>

V. Adjournment – 10:45 am

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Warras, Recording Secretary