

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Graduate Faculty Committee (GFC)

Monday, February 22, 2016

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Union 280

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

At 3:05 p.m., while waiting for meeting attendance to reach quorum, Barbara Bales recommended discussing non-voting agenda items. A committee member recommended discussing agenda item IV. For Discussion Only.

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that he would like to introduce a special agenda item of the CCOET Graduate School recommendations that had been recently submitted. He informed the committee that decisions will be made fairly quickly and he felt that the committee should weight in and should have a discussion regarding the CCOET Graduate School recommendations at the end of the meeting.

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that the recommendations that had been made were broken down into thirds regarding the Graduate School which consist of the following:

1. Position Control
2. Reduction of Administrative Functions
3. Reduction and Consolidation of Academic Programs

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that the alternative approaches were as follows:

1. Dissolving of the Graduate School
2. Alternative Approach
 - a. Bringing outside functions into the Graduate School

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that he and Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska had discussed these issues and feel that the GFC should speak as a group. Craig Guilbault asked if the committee had any comments or concerns. There was no response.

Seyed Hosseini joined the meeting at 3:10 p.m. reaching the attendance quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 p.m. by Craig Guilbault, Chair

II. Roll Call

Present:

(Committee Members): David Allen, Abigail Amissah-Arthur, Barbara Bales (*Secretary*), Martha Carlin, Sarah Davies Cordova, Craig Guilbault (*Chair*), Seyed Hosseini, Hemant Jain, Peninnah Kako, Hamid Ouali, Jason Puskar, Aaron Schutz (*Vice Chair*), Gregory Thomson, James Vining, Erin Winkler, Jane Witten, Cheng Zheng

(Non-Committee Members): Erin Fox (via Skype), Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska (*Ex Officio*), Tracey Heatherington (*Ex Officio*), Tiffany Nation

Absent: Vicky Everson, Jenny Kehl, Laura Otto-Salaj, Timothy Patrick, Diane Schadewald, Richard Smiraglia, Nicole Steppig, Habibollah Tabatabai, Jon Welstead

Guest: Margret Petrie, Sr. Admin. Program Specialist, School of Freshwater Sciences
Jennifer Singer, Sr. Admin. Program Specialist, Center for International Education

III. Announcements

Craig Guilbault asked if there were any other announcements. There was no response. He directed the committee to the next agenda item of approving the meeting minutes and automatic consents from the January 25, 2016 meeting.

IV. Automatic Consents

The following meeting minutes and agenda items under automatic consent were motioned, seconded, and were approved as distributed with no changes and passed unanimously.

- A. Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Committee Meeting of January 25, 2016
- B. Program Changes

	GFC Doc. No.
1. M.S. in Architecture	1398
2. M.A. in Spanish	1399

- C. Program to Program Articulation Agreements
 - [UWM School of Freshwater Sciences and Carroll University](#)
 - [UWM School of Freshwater Sciences and UW-Parkside Geosciences Department](#)

V. Reports

- A. Report from the Dean of the Graduate School
- B. Chair's Report

Craig Guilbault asked the committee if they had had a chance to review the CCOET document. He commented that it was very readable. He informed the committee that this is the time to express their opinions.

Tracey Heatherington commented that hardly any faculty attended the Senate meeting. She stated that there was a lot of input at CCOET. She informed the committee that their participation is needed. She stated that due to the possible closing of the Research Center, the Provost received over 50 emails over the weekend which had an effect on his decision of the closing.

Barbara Bales commented that as a collective, as a committee we should be able to respond instead of responding individually. She commented that this committee is the protector and guidance of the Graduate School. She stated that she felt that this body of members could make a difference in the decisions that were going to be made. She suggested that the committee put together a statement. Craig Guilbault encouraged the group to review the CCOET document and to write a short statement.

Barbara Bales asked Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska if the CCOET document included any information on Research going back to the Graduate School. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the committee that there is no mention of Research in the CCOET report.

The committee was redirected back to the CCOET report discussion from agenda item VIII. For Discussion Only by Craig Guilbault. He commented to the committee that budgets are going to be cut! He insisted that the committee offer their vision on the budget.

Martha Carlin commented that she had hastily reviewed the CCOET report. She was frightened looking at the CCOET report because it contain no numbers. She commented how can we make a decision or be asked to judge without essential information that numbers would provide. Erin Winkler commented that she found it very odd also that the report had no numbers. Jason Puskar commented that after reviewing the report he felt that it created duplicate efforts and represented a strong fantasy vision.

Craig Guilbault shared with the committee information from an inside source that stated that the Graduate School is safe. He asked if any of the committee members disagreed. He asked if there were any other departments gathering their own transcripts. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska commented no.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska gave the committee a summary of what other colleges are doing per the Graduate Schools and that she had shared this information with the Chancellor and Provost. She stated that the Graduate School is not mentioned in the entire CCOET document. She informed the committee that the report gives a vision of duplicate work in the Graduate School which is not real. She stated that the recommendations are costly and not cost saving. She stated that the Graduate School needs to be a “one stop shop” for students in order for us to call ourselves a R1 university.

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that he and Jason Puskar would put together a statement of support by GFC for the Graduate School and send it out to the committee via email for a committee vote. If the vote passes, the statement of support would be forwarded to the University Committee and then on to the Chancellor and all committee members would be copied on the email.

C. GFC representatives on other standing committees

1. Physical Environment Committee

Craig Guilbault announced that Hamid Ouali was absent at the present time and that there would be no report.

2. Academic Planning and Budget Committee

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that there was no real news on what the Chancellor is thinking. He informed the committee that it is not too late to negotiate process. He informed the committee on the Provost’s statement of an outstanding week UWM had regarding the Research status.

Craig Guilbault also informed the committee of an informal plan that was being formed regarding an incentive retirement program. This program would allow employee to retire but stay active to advise students for 3 - 5 years. He commented that he thought the proposal plan was a well thought through plan.

Barbara Bales questioned if the retirees would be paid in this plan. Aaron Schultz referred to the bylaws and asked the question if executive committees could elect someone forever. Seyed Hosseini commented that this could not be possible in Engineering.

Craig Guilbault referred the committee to Vicky Everson’s gathered research that the committee would be reviewing later in the meeting. He directed the committee to the next agenda item the Academic Policy Committee report.

3. Academic Policy Committee

Jane Witten informed the committee that further discussion continued on Mark Harris and his group. She informed the committee that there was more detailed discussion regarding the following:

1. TA Stipend

2. Increase / Reconfiguring Funding

Jane Witten informed the committee that this discussion came about from the GFC but there was no correspondence with the program. The general issue has been going on for some time. The graduate program will suffer from non-communication. Jane Witten informed the committee that she would like to see more information from Mark Harris’s committee. She questioned if there was any interaction between the Dean and the schools.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the committee of the history of the Office of Research being split out of the Graduate School.

Jane Witten questioned if time was being wasted if the schools are going to make decisions. She informed the committee that the hope is that this report will go to the Deans however she commented that she was not sure if it will pay off.

4. Research Policy and Advisory Committee

No report given.

5. Graduate Assistant Appeals Panel

No report given.

VI. English Proficiency Policy

Status update from Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska

[Draft policy document](#)

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that the English Proficiency Policy has been passed on instead of standardized test students would come to campus to test. He informed the committee that Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska had did a lot of work on this issue. He realized that this was more complicated than he first thought. He informed the committee that provisions made to this policy will address issues and concerns. He opened the floor to Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the committee that it was discovered that the approval matrix for both graduate and undergraduate did not have a role for adding a row for a formal procedure. The current approval matrix had been in place since 2008 however it must now go through the Senate.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the committee as far as the English Proficiency Policy it will continue to run under this current process for this semester.

Seyed Hosseini asked does this go through the Policy Committee. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska answered yes you are right it goes through the Senate, Quality Committee. Craig Guilbault commented that it was just a gap that wasn't covered.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the committee of the public/private partnerships that are helping international students regarding recruitments. She informed the committee that the partnerships would help students with English language training and that these partnerships would only work with Master Program students.

Craig Guilbault asked Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska if she thought that this issue would be resolved this year. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the committee, yes. Craig Guilbault asked Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska when would this issue be resolved in March or April. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska informed the committee that the plans are for April.

Craig Guilbault asked if the committee had any other comments. There was no response.

VII. New Business

[Graduate Student Advisor Policy](#)

Craig Guilbault directed the committee to take a look at the Program to Program Articulation Agreement documents that Vicky Everson had put together as a result of her research. He informed the committee that he thought that Vicky Everson had researched a reasonable cross of institutions. He informed the committee that what he took away from his review of the agreements was that policies varied across institutions which was good meaning that the committee could do what they wanted. He pointed out that UW-Madison had a

similar policy to our policy and that Chicago, IL had a more relaxed policy. He pointed out that our policy could offer retirees to stay on as a courtesy. He asked if the committee had any comments.

Seyed Hosseini commented that there was only one space on forms to list advisors. He commented that there was not an official way to list co-advisors. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska commented that it is not provided nor is co-chair advising forbidden. She stated that there are differences across programs.

Craig Guilbault asked the committee if advisors are officially documented. Aaron Schultz answered yes. Barbara Bales informed the committee that advisors are officially listed on PAWS. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska offered that the Graduate School could work on revising the form to list co-advisors.

Barbara Bales commented that 1st in her opinion 1 year to co-advise after retiring is a little short and 2nd co-majors are important. She stated that new faculty members are helped along by professors until they can be on their own.

Craig Guilbault informed the committee that in his field of Mathematics they are allowed to report co-advisors and advising receives prestige recognition.

Erin Winkler commented that advisors that are left behind should receive credit for advising.

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska commented that retaining faculty membership is serving the purpose.

Aaron Schultz commented that if an executive committee member was voted as co-chair that they could stay members until they turn to dust, in his opinion it does matter. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska commented that current policy states when retired you are removed from the membership list and have 1 year to finishing advising.

Erin Winkler commented that the majority of a committee should not come from other departments.

Aaron Schultz recommended changing the bylaws regarding co-advisors and memberships. He recommended that this issue should be an agenda item and that the committee needs to figure this issue out. The first issue being that we should extend time that someone can co-advisor after retirement. The second issue would be to change the bylaws regarding extended time of the executive committee.

Craig Guilbault asked the committee if they would like to create a subcommittee for this issue. Aaron Schultz offered to chair the subcommittee if needed. Craig informed the committee that this issue would be added to the agenda as an official item.

VIII. For Discussion Only

Clearinghouse for Graduate-Level Courses

Craig Guilbault directed the committee to the next agenda item for discussion only.

Barbara Bales opened the discussion with the following three concerns.

1. Several external reviewers brought up the issue of programs not being able to offer programs in a timely matter. How do we expand knowledge?
2. Required courses are concerned that students will go to other department programs
3. Clearinghouse would be able to identify similar courses being taught

David Allen commented about concerns of students going to other department programs. Martha Carlin commented that students are required to take courses outside of their program.

Craig Guilbault commented that he thought a Clearinghouse were be good for students to see opportunities. He felt that the committee should be well organized and focused on this issue. He informed the committee

that if there are strong feelings towards this issue that it would be a big task for the committee but was confident that the committee could handle it.

Seyed Hosseini commented that he thought it would restrict students and require collaboration and understanding.

Barbara Bales informed the committee that external reviewers had recommended spreadsheet with all courses that are cross-related. Peninnah Kako ask if this spreadsheet could be created on a semester by semester basis.

Craig Guilbault directed the committee back to the CCOET report discussion.

IX. Other Business

None

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.