

The University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Graduate Faculty Committee (GFC)

Monday, September 16, 2019

3 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Lubar N130

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dietmar Wolfram per the Secretary of the University Office at 3:09 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present:

(Committee Members): Jennifer Balogh, Marcus Britton, Garry Davis, David DiValerio, Reed Heintzkill, Aaron Schutz, Mark Schwartz, Jason Sherman, Ellen Velie, Stephen Wetzel, Dietmar Wolfram

(Non-Committee Members): Erin Fox (Ex Officio), Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska (Ex Officio), Alessandra Gillen, Tiffany Nation, Jason Puskar (Ex Officio)

Absent: Monna Arvinen-Barrow, Peter Dunn, Peninnah Kako, Bonita Klein-Tasman, Wilkistar Otieno, Stefanie Pinnow

Guest: Nicole Ridgway (Art & Design)

III. Announcements

Introduction of new policies coordinator Alex Gillen by Tiffany Nation.

IV. Election of 2019-20 Chair

Schwartz nominated Aaron Schutz. Davis seconded. Schutz accepted the nomination, agreed to serve, and was unanimously elected as chair.

V. Automatic Consent

The following Automatic Consent items were motioned, seconded, and passed unanimously:

a. Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Committee Meeting of May 6, 2019

b. Annual Reports

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| i. Graduate Faculty Committee | GFC Doc. No. 1622 |
| ii. Subcommittee on Graduate Program Reviews | GFC Doc. No. 1623 |
| iii. Subcommittee on Graduate Courses and Curriculum | GFC Doc. No. 1624 |
| iv. Subcommittee on Graduate Fellowships | GFC Doc. No. 1625 |
| v. Graduate School Scholastic Appeals Committee | GFC Doc. No. 1626 |

VI. New Business

- a. Election of 2019-20 Vice Chair
Reed Heintzkill nominated Marcus Britton for vice chair. There were no other nominations. Marcus Britton accepted the nomination and agreed to serve as vice chair of the GFC. Britton was unanimously elected vice chair.
- b. Review of new GFC charter graduate governance structure
Jason Puskar detailed the old structure vs. the new structure. GFC no longer approves items passed by the former subcommittees that were converted into separate standing committees. Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska also gave more background.
- c. Appointment of Representative for Standing Committees
 - i. Physical Environment Committee
No one offered to serve on the PEC.
 - ii. Academic Planning and Budget Committee
Marcus Britton is already serving on the APBC. He offered to also represent GFC on the committee.
 - iii. Academic Policy Committee
Stephen Wetzal offered to serve on the APC.
 - iv. Research Policy and Advisory Committee
David DiValerio offered to serve on the RPAC.
- d. Revision of the Academic Approval Matrix (Discussion Only)
Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska discussed the current academic approval matrix, and the current and proposed GCC and GFC approvals needed for the two academic actions: "Suspend admission to a program (hiatus) or reactivate suspended admission to a program" and "Drop degree or major." Discussion followed. An informal consensus was reached to bring the proposal back to committee in October, adding the academic action "Authorization to implement new degree or major," with "I: Information only" listed for GFC in all three academic actions.
- e. Changes to the Admission, Continuation and Dismissal Policies of the Graduate School; GFC 1328
Jason gave the background and history of GFC 1328 and the reasons for it coming before the committee again. Old policy language was inadvertently included in the document approved by GFC in May 2019. The Office of Legal Affairs also asked for changes to the new language. A motion was made and approved with amendments. The motion was seconded and passed with one abstention.

VII. Continuing Business

- a. Electronic Dissertation Embargo for Creative Writing PhDs; GFC 1262 (Discussion Only)
Jason gave the background and history of dissertation embargos and the reasons for revising the policy for creative writing PhDs. He reported that a student had a contract with a commercial publisher rescinded when the publisher discovered that the dissertation version was available online for free. The Creative Writing program would like an opt-out for submitting dissertations electronically, for creative writers. The revisions to the policy will be drafted for consideration by the GFC in October. Discussion followed.

VIII. Reports

- a. Report from the Dean of the Graduate School

- i. This past year, UWM gained R1 status for a second time.
 - ii. This summer, the Grad School worked with all the schools and colleges to complete phase II of the R1 Graduate Outstanding Learning Environment Plans (R1-GOLE). These are strategic plans for successful graduate students on our campus. There are now predictions for enrollments in three, six, and ten years. This includes graduate education, recruitment, new enrollment, retention, alumni affairs, and funding. Plans are to complete phase III by December.
 - iii. This year the Grad School wants to connect what we are learning above along with:
 - 1. gradSERU survey: A survey last year of over 1,400 graduate students.
 - 2. Data analysis on who has been enrolled for the past four years.
 - 3. Focus groups of students from the Midwest Student Exchange Program states.
- b. Chair's Report
 - i. Nothing to report.

IX. Other Business

- a. Reed Heintzkill, Student Association representative, introduced himself. He stated that both seats are filled on SA Senate with graduate student senators. Over 50% of the Senate Appropriations Committee is now filled with graduate students. There are also regular meetings with the Graduate Student Representation Committee.

X. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.