

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
(GPRC) Graduate Program Review Committee

Monday, September 14, 2020
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)
[+1 414-253-8850](#) United States, Milwaukee (Toll)
Conference ID: 594 258 651#

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Per the request of SECU, Sunwoong Kim called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

Present:

(Committee Members): Alexander Arnold, Woonsup Choi, Madhusudan Dey, David DiValerio, Maria Gillespie, Lingqian Hu, Sunwoong Kim, Susan Mcroy, Stuart Moulthrop, Timothy O'Brien, Bo Zhang

(Non-Committee Members): Tiffany Nation (Graduate Programs Coordinator), Jason Puskar (Ex-Officio)

Absent: Suzanne Boyd, Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska (*Ex Officio*), Alessandra Gillen (Graduate School),

Guests: Douglas Ihrke (Urban Studies Programs / College of Letters and Science), Bryce Lord (Public & Nonprofit Administration / College of Letters and Science)

II. Announcements

Jason Puskar, Associate Dean of the Graduate School (*Ex-Officio*) welcomed and thanked the committee on behalf of the Graduate School Dean.

There were no other announcements.

III. Election of 2020 – 2021 Committee Chair

David DiValerio self-nominated. There were no other nominations. David DiValerio accepted the nomination and agreed to serve as chair for the 2020 – 2021 academic year.

David DiValerio was unanimously elected the 2020 - 2021 GPRC Chair.

IV. Approve Minutes from the December 9, 2019

The minutes were approved, motioned, and passed unanimously.

V. Approved 2019 – 2020 Graduate Program Review Committee Annual Report GPRC Doc. No. 1720

The 2019 – 2020 Graduate Program Review Committee Annual Report was approved, motioned, and passed unanimously.

VI. Public Administration MPA Program Review Report GPRC Doc. No. 1719

Dietmar Wolfram and Peter Dunn served as internal reviewers however their terms on the GPRC have expired. Peter Dunn agreed to attend the meeting to report to the GPRC however he was not present.

David DiValerio, GPRC chair lead the committee discussion for the report.

Doug Ikre, Director of the MPA program reported that the program was created in 1984 and ranks in the top 25 nationwide in the MPA programs in the country. Students in this program graduate with a (L&S) Letter and Science degree on their transcripts. This program has a long history of placing people in public service positions. Normally, classes are taught Monday – Friday evening in a face to face setting for working professionals however due to COVID currently all classes except for two are taught online. The program has decided to temporary waive GRE requirements during the COVID pandemic.

He reported that the program has had some ups and downs in the past, but things are looking good going forward. There is an average of 15 students in classes this coming Fall and graduate students are graduating.

Jason Puskar asked if the COVID move to online has opened up more opportunities for the program to be more strategic in expanding their market to Madison where the state governance seat resides and where there would be great interest in the program. Ikre informed the committee that their program would appreciate any assistance to help market to Madison.

Ikre informed the committee that the program made a successfully hired during the summer for a visiting faculty member for 3 years which was a recommendation of the external reviewers within the external report.

Woonsup Choi asked per the external report's recommendation of the program becoming accredited what is the program outlook on hiring faculty and becoming accredited. Ilke informed the committee that currently the program only has 3 full-time faculty and accreditation requires the program to have 5 full-time faculty. The program is the only program within the state beside Oshkosh and the program thinks that they are ok for at least the next couple of years without accreditation.

Discussion followed. There was no further discussion.

Recommendation for continuation of the graduate program for the next 10 years was motioned, seconded, and approved unanimously.

VII. Emergency Resolution DRAFT: COVID Pandemic

Emergency Resolution for Graduate Program Reviews During Time of COVID Pandemic: Virtual Site Visits

The Committee on Review of Graduate Programs moves to enact an emergency resolution to allow virtual site visits that will continue to conform with all aspects of the GFC Doc. No. 951 (Faculty Doc. No. 3197) policy on reviews in all aspects but the face to face mode of meetings with the external reviewers. This accommodation will be valid during the period when external reviewers cannot travel safely to UWM and when the UWM participants in the review cannot gather in person in larger numbers and close distance (e.g. internal reviewers, campus, and school/college administrators, and program faculty, staff, students, and alumni).

There were no questions from the committee.

Recommendation for the Emergency Resolution Draft: COVID Pandemic was motioned, seconded, and approved unanimously.

VIII. Other Business

There was no other business.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.