

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

Monday, April 12, 2021
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting
+1 414-253-8850 US, Milwaukee (Toll)
Conference ID: 716 846 012#

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Called to order at 11:02 a.m.

Present:

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

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

Absent: Maria Gillespie, Alessandra Gillen (Graduate School), Bo Zhang

Guests: Dev Venugopalan, Associate Vice Chancellor; Sara Paschak, Associate Professor, Political Science

II. Announcements

There were no announcements.

III. Approve Minutes from the **March 8, 2021**

The minutes were approved, motioned, and passed unanimously.

IV. Political Science MA/PhD Program Review Report

GPRC Doc. No. 1798

Susan Mcroy and Bo Zhang served as internal reviewers. Bo Zhang was not in attendance to present however Susan Mcroy was in attendance and presented to the committee.

She reported that both her and Bo Zhang attended all of the program's meeting with tenured and untenured faculty, grad students, and alumni. Overall, this is a well-regarded and high quality program that like many other program is suffering loss of faculty however the program is very strong in areas that they specialize in and is very stable and are not in any jeopardy.

Graduates are in shape. There was a good turnout of the graduate students for the program's meetings. The graduates have good jobs in the region from a broad range of employers. They noted that the alumni can be found in a lot of local places such as Northwestern Mutual, 3M, and FedEx. Again, very stable. The graduates were very positive about the quality of the program in their experiences.

Like the typical concerns from the external reviewers, there were the same as others programs such loss of resources, declining enrollments, and the size of the program overall such as the number of faculty. They were concerned that the program's size was 1/3 of the size of the typical programs.

The external reviewers were overall impressed with the program and rated it as an A with no major weaknesses. They noted that the MPA program was the best opportunity for increasing financial security and to grow enrollments. The greatest threat noted was the potential loss of untenured faculty and they suggested enhancing efforts to mentor them.

She reported that it's not much more to say, it was a very positive review. She informed the committee that there were no immediate alarms and would hope that the committee approves the program until it's next review.

Sara Paschak, department chair, informed the committee that the program was delighted with the external report. She thought that both the external reviewers were fantastic reviewers in terms of their qualifications and positions in the field.

She also thanked Tiffany Nation and informed the committee that Tiffany Nation, Graduate Programs Coordinator of the Graduate School made the review process fairly painless which was nice especially with everything that is going on right now. Something that the program learned from the review but was already aware of but are now going to actively pursue was that the external reviewers were so excited about our placement in non-academic setting for our PhDs.

Additional 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.

V. Discussion Only:

Updating of GFC Doc. No. 951 (Faculty Doc. No. 3197) Track Changes

Dev Venugopalan, Associate Vice Chancellor, attended the meeting to provide the committee with his expertise and guidance on the UW-System process portion of the graduate program reviews.

The committee further discussed pages 8 - 19.

VI. Other Business

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska, the Graduate School Dean, informed the committee that she will not be in attendance for the last meeting of the semester. She gave kudos to the committee on the completion of the program review virtual site visits that took place this semester due to the COVID pandemic. She was very pleased. She is also please with the committee taking on the big task of revising the GFC Doc. No. 951 policy document.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.