

Graduate Council

Minutes: Monday, Oct 6, 2014

Chair, Jennifer Balboni

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Attendance	Jen Balboni, Art Graziano, Liz Kudzma, Tricia McConville, Maureen Murphy, John Bresnahan, Don Gratz, Jane Lawless, Peter Hainer	
Minutes	Minutes from Sept 8 reviewed Responsibility for meeting notes will be shared this semester	Minutes unanimously approved
Welcome	Dr Art Graziano, newest elected faculty member	
Congratulations	MSN program for completing the CCNE review process	
Name change update/rationale	ComCom asked again for rationale of name change, which Jen re-sent. This will be brought to the faculty for a vote either in Oct or in the latest case, Nov. Because the name change will change bylaws, a 2/3 vote to approve is needed.	
Focus for AY 14/15: Writing needs	Jen brought forward a proposed focus on writing across the graduate programs. Potential topics for discussion and action include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identifying writing commonalities and unique needs among grad programs.Reviewing minutes from past years to identify ongoing needs	Program members will submit rubrics and examples of writing assignments

Programs reports

- Identifying best practices for graduate writing and academic support at other institutions
- This concern as further evidence of need for testing center

Additional discussion of this topic included: MCJ's writing assessment as a model for identifying and addressing writing deficits in applicants; MBA's early writing assignments which provide benchmark info; MSN's detailed APA documentation; technological support for writing improvement through technology such as TurnItIn.

- MBA (deferred, Directory Steve Gunning unable to attend)
- MSN – Liz Kudzma reported on work course descriptions so that they will be appropriate for both CNL and Education concentrations. Also reported that there will be a title change for the graduate theory course. If these are description edits only, and don't impact course content, then Grad Curriculum/Policy Com only needs to see the updated course descriptions.
- MED – Don reported that there are currently 5 cohorts (all hybrid/blended): 3 teacher and 2 principal track. Of note: Bridgewater State is opening a campus on Cape Cod with a focus on education; Endicott has started an education program in Brockton with fewer credits and costing 11,000 less than the Curry MED. Don wants to investigate reducing number of credits/cost per credit. Also discussed formation of district collaboratives which contract colleges/universities to offer programs to group as a whole.
- MACJ – Jen reported that the program is exploring possibility of 3 cohorts rather than 2. Current cohort size (27) is too large – hoping to negotiate for smaller cohorts for next Agreement. MACJ was congratulated for its success.

Other items/Good of the order	None
Adjourn	10:00 am.