

## Graduate Council

Minutes: Monday, September 08, 2014

Chair, Jennifer Balboni

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Attendance	Jen Balboni, JoAnn Olievera, Liz Kudzma, Tricia McConville, Steve Gunning, John Bresnahan, Don Gratz, Jane Lawless, Peter Hainer	
Shift in Focus between Grad Council and Grad Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Discussed Venn Diagram and the separate spheres of Grad Council and Grad Planning, with some overlap in between. Much discussion about what happens with the in-between and how grad programs would be advocated for. Jen mentioned that the operational meetings already existed, but that they occurred separately and without the CAO. Discussed whether additional language needs to be added to the GC charge regarding communication with Graduate Planning and Operations Council.</li><li>Jane brought up for discussion whether or not the Council wanted to discuss essential learning outcomes (i.e., technology, or information literacy), as is being done by separate groups on the undergrad level. Some questioned the extent to which the four grad programs had similar or different needs for their students. Discussed the idea of “bootcamps” to raise student abilities in some of these core competencies. Discussed what evidence or artifacts might be useful in examining student barriers to success.</li><li>Discussed the need for additional support for our students in the areas of AEC and in technology. Discussed whether</li></ul>	<p>All: Consider strategies for the grad programs to bring to the group to share on core competency issues.</p> <p>Jen will request protocol from Com Com chair re: charge wording.</p> <p>Members will consider/plan to bring/ the types of evidence needed to examine some core competencies.</p>

AEC was meeting the needs of our students. One member mentioned the students came back further behind after meeting with AEC, as APA and scientific writing were not being reinforced in those meetings. Several considered whether Grad Programs, in particular, needed their own Instructional Technologist. Don pointed out that advocating for that type of operational support had not been fully vetted.

- Jen, Jane and Steve mentioned that the new CAO had prioritized technology initiatives, and that any requests should be situated within the Mission and the Strategic Plan as already identified areas of intent for the College.
- Discussed tenor of last meeting, with some members feeling like the new structure was imposed, with little time to process the meaning of it, or if it was the correct structure to move forward. John pointed out that the structure was set, within the Dean's purview, and not negotiable. Peter mentioned that he was concerned about the level of advocacy for grad programs in the new structure. The question was posed to Tricia whether a faculty member could attend the Planning meeting. Tricia questioned whether that was necessary. Others mentioned it would serve to increase transparency and that protocol has been for institutional meetings generally to be open to faculty.
- Discussed popularity/relevancy/complexity of inter-disciplinary grad programs (i.e.: health care management)

Tricia will check to see if a faculty member can attend the Planning Meeting.

<p><b>Election of a 5<sup>th</sup> elected member</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group discussed the need to fill the vacancy created in Steve's position, as he is now the Director and we need a minimum of five elected members.</li> </ul>	<p>Jen will contact Rob MacDougall and Bruce Steinberg. Jen will contact Com Com to notify of upcoming vacancy. Jen will also request name change for this group.</p>
<p><b>Program Reports</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jen suggested to keep program reports as part of the Council, as it was an important piece to learn from one another. Several agreed, but echoed that the reports should be brief.</li> <li>Jane noted that sometimes things that should be agenda items also present during these reports. Encouraged to set agenda items outside of the program reports.</li> <li>MSN: Liz reported they are preparing for the accreditation visit, later this September. She reported some difficulty in getting a resource room in anticipation of the visit. She is more concerned about the undergrad program than grad, as the grad program was well situated for the visit. JoAnn and Liz discussed the idea/possibility of changing the Grad program name to increase relevancy and enrollment. No immediate plans in that area.</li> <li>MBA: Steve as the new Director discussed the need/desire for hybrid, questioned whether our students wanted it, and what trends he saw in speaking with alumni compared to what the market is demanding. He is trying to pull together a list of businesses to make the Capstone identification streamlined to "build a funnel" of potential sites. Discussed that the program has been billed as hybrid, but not delivering true hybrid. He and Tony Fabrizio will pilot hybrid this AY and bring to the faculty.</li> </ul>	<p>Program Directors will try to be brief, and set agenda items outside of the program report as appropriate; when needed the chair will table longer discussions for a later meeting.</p>

**Goals for the near  
term/ Other items**

**Adjourn**

- MED-Launched one cohort this fall in Plymouth. Principal Leadership program underway in Plymouth. They currently have one cohort of 15 students (at half pay tuition rates), through a grant. Don concerned about competition as the number of inquiries has dropped, but also very concerned about the extent of new regulations for the principal level and in the area of ELL. There have been massive changes in regulations that are impacting enrollment (not just at Curry, but all around).
- MACJ- At capacity with 27 in Plymouth and Milton. Already interviewing for next year, which leads to a discussion about resources to accommodate the overwhelming demand in the next AY. Liz commented that this was an example for other programs.
- Peter brought up the potential to look at graduate faculty pay as the next negotiation begins. Whereas we currently have a pay differentiation per class, he suggested we discuss the possibility of different course loads (for example, 4/3).

10:32am.