

**Graduate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 18, 2018**  
**MEETING LOCATION: 3007 Converse**

Present:

Shannon Lowe, Linda Most (for Dixie R. Haggard), Anne Price (for Matthew Grant), Lee Grimes, Serey Bright, Iris Ellis, Nancy Swanson, Elvan Aktas, Jeremy Bauer, Shirley Andrews (for Kelly Heckaman), James LaPlant, Eric Chamber (for Jim Loughry), Hanae Kanno (for Phil Dybicz), Neena Banerjee (for Gerald Merwin), Herb Fiester.

Guests: Rebecca Petrella, Ernest Joseph Jones.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. James LaPlant at 2:05 pm.

Minutes from November 16, 2017, were approved.

**College of Education and Human Services**

Revised Catalog Copy – MED in Early Childhood Education (Change to Elementary Education):

Motion was made to approve; seconded. Shirley Andrews said that the program is changing the title of the degree from M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education to M.Ed. in Elementary Education. This will ensure the program aligns with the grade span designations in the public schools and help clarify program availability for students who may want to enroll in the program. This change necessitated the subsequent changes in course names (replacing Early Childhood Education to Elementary Education). The proposals were approved.

Curriculum Change – MED: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Lee Grimes said that the national accreditation body CACREP (Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs) requires that school counseling programs move from 48 hours to 60 hours of coursework by 2020. The plan is to get ahead of the curve and roll it out to VSU in the Fall of 2018. With this change in hours they are also changing the name of the program from School Counseling to Counselor Education. This necessitated the subsequent course name changes as well as the new courses to meet the 60-hour requirement. The proposals were approved with edits.

## Other Business/Topics from the Floor

1. 4+1 Programs: Currently Sociology, MCL, and Biology have programs. In the future Communication Arts, MAcc and MBA might be working towards such programs as well. James LaPlant discussed a previous meeting with Dr. Gravett and Dr. Kinney where it was decided that all 4+1 programs should have standard language such as changing all 4+1 references in the undergraduate and graduate catalogs to “Accelerated Undergraduate-to-Graduate Track” as well as no longer having a Track 1 (current degree) and Track 2 (the 4+1 track). Instead the catalog will list the major and, if applicable, the Accelerated program underneath. James LaPlant noted that students will still have to take at least 21 hours post-baccalaureate, so depending on the graduate degree hour requirements, it may change the allowable hours an undergraduate could take in the Accelerated Program. Other suggestions for Accelerated Programs mentioned by the group were to see if Organizational Leadership to MPA or Political Science to MPA would work. Linda Most noted that in order to create these various Accelerated Programs the various pathways and admission requirements need to be spelled out. James LaPlant reminded everyone that in order to create these types of programs you would need to submit an Undergraduate and Graduate Curriculum Change along with an Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog Copy Change. James LaPlant also noted that PELL and HOPE do count towards the Accelerated Programs in terms of paying for graduate courses that count towards the undergraduate degree.
2. The graduate tuition rate may be increasing again. The last increase saw a face-to-face increase of around \$8-\$9. Currently the discussion is to increase in-state graduate face-to-face tuition by \$6 (from \$249 to \$255) and out of state graduate tuition by \$22 (from \$897 to \$919).
3. Enrollment is currently down about 1.9%. Undergraduate enrollment is down 71 students (1%), and graduate enrollment is down 127 students (5%).
4. Linda Most explained that the advertisement for the Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and Research is currently posted. The ad states that the candidate must have an earned doctorate or other terminal degree in a discipline represented at the University. The goal is to have the search completed by Spring Break (aggressive timeline). The Search Committee has representatives from across campus. The position will have expanded responsibilities to include the Graduate School, the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research Administration (OSPRA), International Studies, and Continuing Education.
5. Distributed the Call for Nomination for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Research Symposium. Departments should feel free to submit as many student projects as they can recruit.  
Key Dates:  
Submissions due by March 2, 2018.  
Students Abstracts by March 19, 2018.

Students PowerPoint Posters by March 30, 2018.

Motion was made to adjourn at 3:20.

*Ernest Smith*

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Ernest Smith, Recorder

*James LaPlant*

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James LaPlant, AVP for Research and Dean of the  
Graduate School