

GRADUATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2017
MEETING LOCATION: 3007 CONVERSE

Present: Elvan Aktas, Jeremy Bauer, Luis Bejarano, Serey Bright, Matt Carter, Eric Chambers (for Jim Loughry), Maren Clegg Hyer, Phillip Dybicz, Iris Ellis, Herb Fiester, Dixie Haggard, Linda Jurczak, James LaPlant, Shannon Lowe, Gerald Merwin, Linda Most, Anne Price, Michelle Ritter. Guests: Ofelia Nikolova, Teresa Williams, James Whelan.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. James LaPlant at 2:03 pm.

Minutes from October 26, 2017, were approved with changes and one abstention.

College of Arts & Sciences

Curriculum Change/Revised Catalog Copy - Biology: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Eric Chambers said that the program is adding an accelerated program for their BS/MS in Biology. This program will allow an undergraduate to complete 9-12 graduate courses and then complete 21 hours as a graduate student. Recommended: show Track 1 and Track 2 in the proposals, like the Sociology and MCL proposals, and include the undergraduate components as well. The proposals were approved with changes.

College of Education & Human Resources

Curriculum Changes and Revised Catalog Copy – MCL Accelerated Program (French or Spanish): Motion was made to approve; seconded. Ofelia Nikolova said that several tracks will be converted to accelerated programs (French ESOL & FLED; Spanish ESOL & FLED). The accelerated program would start fall 2018. Other proposals – the master’s program is adding admissions exceptions for non-traditional applicants, similar to what other COEHS programs have done to explicate exceptions in admissions criteria; place language in the catalog and on web pages for transparency. The proposal was approved.

Curriculum Change and Revised Catalog Copy – MED IT P12; MED MGMS; MED CIAT: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Herb Fiester said that the programs are adjusting for admissions requirements to reflect current processes followed for transparency by COEHS master’s programs. The proposal for MED CIAT will update the language for admissions, correcting a typo. The proposals were approved.

Revised Catalog Copy – EDS School Counseling: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Serey Bright said the proposal, which was approved at the October GEC meeting, updates the effective date of the change from fall 2018 to spring 2018. The proposal was approved.

College of Business Administration

Revised Catalog Copies – MBA/WebMBA: Motion was made to approve; seconded. Elvan Aktas said that the proposals will update program coordinator information on admissions web pages and include a waiver of test updates. The proposals were approved with edits.

Topics from the Floor

1. Application Fee Adjustments: A graduate application fee adjustment is needed for purchasing the Hobsons Radius application and review modules which would allow the Graduate School to implement a fully online application and admissions process. The one-time funding request would be \$56,400 and the reoccurring yearly costs would be \$35,400. James LaPlant noted that he is hopeful that end of the year funds in the current fiscal year can be utilized to cover the one-time costs. The current application fee is \$35. VSU's would still be low - Kennesaw has a \$60 app fee and Georgia State's is \$50. Raising the application fee by \$10 would generate between \$30,000 and \$35,000 per year based upon the current number of individuals who apply to the VSU Graduate School. If the Graduate School can be guaranteed that the entire fee would be given for its use to cover the \$35,000 each year, then the GEC agreed to the proposal. Gerald Merwin made a motion to raise the application fee from \$35 to \$45, earmarking the money to cover the \$35,000 yearly expense, and to check with sister institutions regarding their fees. The motion was seconded and approved.
2. Summer GA Budget: James LaPlant said that the graduate assistantship stipend pool is in good shape and we will be able to cover all spring 2018 renewals. We hope to have approximately \$100,000 for summer GA appointments.

Motion was made to adjourn at 3:00 pm; seconded.

Teresa Williams
Teresa Williams, Recorder

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