MINUTES
The Graduate Council
February 20, 2023
Zoom

Members Present: Ron Bramhall *(ex officio),* Krista Chronister *(ex officio)*, Katherine Donaldson *(ex officio)*, Erik Girvan, Aaron Gullickson, Beth Harn, Gyoung-ah Lee, Barbara Muraca, Raghuveer Parthasarathy, Hatsue Sato, Keya Saxena, Leslie Straka, Rebecca Lewis, Frances White *(ex officio)*, Annie Zemper

Members Absent: Bonnie Gutierrez *(ex officio)*, Christopher Chavez, Jaewoo Kim, Martin Klebes, Satomi Ladd *(ex officio)*

Division of Graduate Studies Staff in Attendance: Jered Nagel

The meeting was called to order at 1:03PM and the January meeting minutes were approved.

College of Education Proposals

The three proposals presented for discussion are not yet ready to be voted on as there are still several aspects pending approval, such as the need for external review and coursework that is still going through the approval process. Julie Alonso, Sylvia Thompson, and Krista Parent joined the meeting to provide an overview of the revisions to the degrees.

1) New Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in Educational Leadership
    o This degree is the minimum requirement to become a Superintendent.
    o It is offered in conjunction with the Professional Administrator Licensure and includes an additional 18 credits beyond the licensure.
    o Students entering this program must already have a master's degree.
    o The licensure is also offered by itself.
    o There will be 450 students transferring from Concordia University Chicago into this program at the UO
2) Revised Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Educational Leadership
    o This degree was previously run through the Professional Administrator Licensure program, but this proposal formalizes its implementation into the EDLD program.
    o It is not a standalone degree, but rather added on to the Principal Licensure program which includes new and robust requirements by TSPC.
3) Revised Doctor of Education (D.Ed.) in Educational Leadership
    o This revised program involves dropping several courses, including a research course, and replacing them with more appropriate practice-focused courses.
    o The policy that disallowed transfer credits has been removed and has been replaced with the University's transfer credit requirement.

Professor Aaron Gullickson asked for an overview of the different degree tracks that students might follow when pursuing these degrees and licensures. Krista Parent explained that students usually start at the Principal Licensure level, whether or not they already have a masters. After working as a principal or assistant principal for several years, many consider pursuing the Professional Administrator Licensure. There are some students who go straight into the Professional Administrator Licensure program, but if their goal is to become a superintendent are encouraged to obtain both that licensure and the Ed. S. Additionally, some individuals may already be teachers already working in the field who want to pursue a D. Ed. to gain deeper knowledge in educational leadership.

The meeting then moved onto the topic of future demand for the program. It was noted that there is currently a workforce shortage in Oregon, and the program can expect a high level of demand for the next 3-5 years.

There had been some confusion that the Ed. S. degree would be approved for the summer, however, it was clarified that it is not possible due to the pending need for external, board, and state reviews, among other approvals in the workflow. The program, however, is already accepting students, therefore, they may wish to consult Ron Bramhall about how to proceed to alleviate any potential confusion.

Human Physiology PhD Program Revisions

Human Physiology Professor Andy Karduna joined the Graduate Council meeting and provided an overview of the changes to the PhD program. The proposal outlines the removal of the current 135 credit minimum requirement and changing it to 81 credits, which is the university-wide minimum for Ph.Ds. This change is intended to reduce the need for students to take unnecessary credits, including research or dissertation credits, when they have completed their dissertation defense but had not met the 135-credit requirement. Which credits are eliminated depends on when comprehensive exams are completed.

Professor Beth Harn mentioned that when a department submits a program revision proposal, it may be a good time for them to review their comprehensive exam timeline for equity and clarity.

Professor Raghu Parthasarathy motioned to approve the proposal, and Professor Gyoung-ah Lee seconded. The changes were unanimously approved by the Graduate Council.

Open Discussion as Needed

Professor Frances White revisited the topic of a policy that requires any statistics course to be approved by the Math department. Historically, the Math department would not grant approval if the course were specific to a discipline. The second part of this policy states that any course submitted to UOCC must undergo a duplication check. However, this process is only required for undergraduate level, and not necessary for graduate level statistics courses. There are currently three statistics courses in a COE program that are being held up until the Graduate Council decides on forgoing the duplication check for graduate level statistics courses.

In the future, the Graduate Council should deliberate on which programs may offer their own statistics courses without going through the duplication check process. This will make it easier for UOCC to review stats courses within disciplines.

Professor Aaron Gullickson suggested removing the requirement that the Math department review program specific graduate-level statistics courses, and that UOCC may proceed without performing duplication checks on these courses until a formal policy is put in place. Professor Frances White motioned to approve Aaron's suggestion. Professor Erik Girvan seconded, and the motion passed.

The next Graduate Council meeting will include DEI training for the first hour.

The Council adjourned at 2:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Leslie Straka
Graduate Council Secretary