The Graduate Council
March 16, 2022
Zoom

Members Present:  Ron Bramhall (ex officio), Christopher Chavez, Krista Chronister (ex officio), Andre Djiffack, Ihab Elzeyadi, Stephen Hallmark, Beth Harn, Volya Kapatsinski, Gyoung-Ah Lee, Julia Pomerenk (ex officio), Leslie Straka, Frances White (ex officio)

Members Absent:  Katherine Donaldson (ex officio), Alexis Garcia, Isaac Gomez, Aaron Gullickson, Jaewoo Kim

Division of Graduate Studies Staff in Attendance:  Tara Kaiser, Jered Nagel, Hannah Schneider-Lynch

The meeting was called to order at 3:33pm.

New Online Master's Program in Immersive Media Communication
Professor Donna Davis joined the Graduate Council meeting to provide an overview of this proposal and answer any questions.  She informed the Graduate Council that though student interest in immersive media content, such as virtual reality, NFTs, the Metaverse, etc., is growing, there is a gap in opportunity to study it at a graduate and industry level.  This professional master’s program, therefore, would focus on communications topics in those newly emerging areas. The program is built on current SOJC models and is designed as a one-year, online program. The curriculum includes core courses which are currently being taught within the college, a seminar that covers current trends and advancements, electives in areas such as interactive media, AI, entrepreneurship, etc., and a capstone project.

Frances White and Stephen Hallmark noted that many of the courses outlined in this proposal have not been submitted in CourseLeaf. However, Assistant Vice Provost Jered Nagel noted that this is proposal is under preliminary review so that they may provide feedback.  The program also underwent an external review last month, and Professor Davis intends to adjust the proposal according the committee’s suggestions. Professor Davis ensured the Council that many course numbers in the proposal are temporary, and are on track to become permanent courses.

The Graduate Council could not vote on this proposal because much of the curriculum has not yet been approved.  Jered will contact Professor Davis regarding the feedback received and will discuss next steps.

New PhD in Data-Driven Music
Professor Jeffrey Stolet joined the Graduate Council meeting to provide an overview of this proposal and answer any questions.  Professor Stolet explains that this program essentially studies how data can be used for music making, particularly when heard through modern devices.  In order to produce music through those speakers, headphones, etc., it must first be formatted in a particular way.  Students in this program would not only develop the skillset needed to produce such music, but also learn to apply that skill more broadly into areas like data sonification and data mapping (mapping data to sound outcomes).

This PhD covers broader range of topics compared to the Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) degree. It acknowledges the rapidly changing music technologies and aims to build understanding in a cultural and professional context in addition to a musical context.
The Graduate Council voiced concern regarding this proposal and would like the following points to be addressed before moving forward with a vote:

- There is a very small number of faculty within the program, which results a lack of diversity
- What kinds of specific job opportunities available to graduates of this program, and how does it compare to the data science/analytics program
- Need clarification on the difference between real time performance and music for data visualization
- Need clarification on who will serve on the dissertation committees besides the program’s faculty
- Music History Period Survey needs to be updated in CourseLeaf with all possibilities for “66x”

**New Accelerated Master’s Program in Nonprofit Management**

Jered Nagel informed the Council that this program is unlike other Accelerated Master’s Programs (AMPs) in that there is no sharing of graduate and undergraduate credit. Rather, it is for students minoring in Nonprofit Management to have an accelerated pathway through the master’s program, which includes a different set of requirements compared to the traditional master’s.

Professor Dyana Mason joined the meeting to offer a further overview of the program. She states that only students with a high undergraduate GPA and certain letter grades in specific courses are accepted into the AMP. Once in the program, they will take courses to satisfy the prerequisites of the master’s program while concurrently completing the minor requirements. Historically, many undergraduates within PPPM do not pursue a master’s in Nonprofit Management because many of the courses they have already taken overlap with the graduate coursework, resulting in duplication. To mitigate that, the program usually reconstructs the master’s program on a case-by-case basis. Having this AMP in place would make the path toward a master’s more streamlined for those students. Additionally, this AMP is only open to current UO students. Any students coming from outside institutions must enroll in the traditional master’s program.

Graduate Council members voiced concern that 1) this AMP has a different structure than other AMPs which creates a sense of false advertising, and 2) the fact that students from outside the UO cannot enroll in this program is problematic, since they may have all the necessary prerequisites, but are denied access.

In order to make this program more structurally aligned with other AMPs, Jered Nagel suggested the proposal and requirements be rewritten to allow for undergraduates to take 400 level courses at a 500 level.

The Graduate Council decided to abstain from voting on this proposal until the above concerns can be addressed.

**Accelerated Master’s Program Credit Policies**

In the last Graduate Council meeting, the consensus regarding the AMP Credit Limit proposal was to combine options 2 and 3. Combining these two options would allow programs to propose a credit allocation policy that is appropriate for their specific needs within a 24 graduate credit maximum. Up to 16 credits may be shared across the graduate and undergraduate degrees, and up to 8 may be applied specifically to the master’s degree. The policy would also include a clause that allows departments to propose higher limits for consideration on a case by case basis.

The Graduate Council shared this proposal with the Undergraduate Council, and they approved of moving it forward.

Professor Beth Harn motioned to approve this revised proposal which combines options 2 and 3 of the AMP Credit Limit policy, and the Council unanimously voted in approval.
GE English Language Policy

Due to a funding disruption, Vice Provost Krista Chronister and Assistant Vice Provost Jered Nagel developed a proposal to reduce the two language proficiency courses offered by AEI down to a single course. AEI has agreed to design a class for students with a certain language proficiency. The conditions and limitations of the policy are still being finalized. All parties recognize that this plan of action is not ideal, and there is shared concern of losing potential students.

Unfortunately, the Graduate Council needs to decide on this proposal as soon as possible since students who may be impacted by this loss of funding are currently being admitted.

Professor Christopher Chavez motioned to approve this proposal. Professor Leslie Straka seconded the motion, and the Council were in agreement. The Graduate Council acknowledges that the implementation of this proposal is only temporary, until a better solution can be determined.

Hold Over Items

- Microcredentials

The Council adjourned at 5:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Leslie Straka
Graduate Council Secretary