

Graduate Council
April 10, 2014
3:00 p.m.
Welty Board Room

Graduate Council Members Present: Dr. Shelia Adams, William Bidy, Dr. Marty Brock, Dr. Lorraine Gaddis, Dr. Martin Hatton, Dr. Dan Heimmermann, Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith, Dr. Dee Larson, Lynn Dobbs for Tammy Prather, Dr. Thomas Richardson, Dr. Monica Riley

Members Absent: Dr. Mark Bean, Dr. Irene Pintado, Dr. Johnnie Sue Wijewardane, Dr. Scott Tollison, Joy Townsend

Dr. Hatton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- Approval of minutes from April 10, 2014. A motion was made by Dr. Adams to accept the minutes and seconded by Dr. Brock. Motion carried.
1. James Denny
 - James shared with the information with the council about 3.3.1.4 for SACSCOC concerning research. This has to be an institutional level conversation, and will not be defined by Graduate Council. Research can be defined as an institution and then each college, and possibly even by each department. Department chairs will submit brief narratives of what is expected of their faculty. Conversations need to begin on how to define research and scholarly activity. A definition of research can be made complicated very quickly. Contact peer institutions to see what they are doing.
 - Dr. Hatton - there may be some variance in Graduate programs/faculty. Must be able to articulate expectations for Graduate faculty vs. Undergraduate faculty. Also, the relationship of Graduate students with Graduate faculty. Must have commonly defined objectives, typology clear and explained. Must have forward looking plans on how goals are being achieved. Feed into an institutional level. This will all encompass what is already required of us. We should assist James with what to do with research on this campus.
 - Dr. Jolly-Smith – closely tied to expectations to research of Graduate students vs. Undergraduate in addition to faculty. Possibly use one as a starting piece similar to Nursing that has already been accepted. Remove what may not pertain to the specific program.
 - Dr. Richardson – In the recent site visit, research as part of this mission was insisted upon. This was accepted by the on-site committee. Down the road, this will be as an institution as a whole. Define what means moving forward by the time for the five year

report, and definitely by the ten year. We must define in Graduate programs, and evaluation of faculty in the department. We are in a different set of circumstances now. Have had expectations for scholarly and development, but not for institutional.

- Dr. Heimmermann – The recent SACS brought an initiation of a productive dialog of things that may have not been addressed before. Another important time, is how will this research be presented and in what format. SACS tenure and promotion guidelines specifically more articulate what we mean.
- Dr. Brock – Use standards in accreditation instead of redoing what already may be done.
- Dr. Adams – Should look at what is expected at each level. Share what each college is doing and learn from each other.
- Dr. Gaddis – The three year plan is not very helpful with this process.
- Dr. Larson – A good starting point, might be to look at other universities similar to us to use as an example.

2. William Bidy – Proposed changes in credit hours for the following MFA courses:

- TH 501 from 4 credit hours to 3 credit hours
- TH 502 from 4 credit hours to 3 credit hours
- TH 531 from credit hour to 2 credit hours
- TH 532 from 1 credit hour to 2 credit hours
- TH 541 from 0 credit hours to 1 credit hour
- TH 542 from 0 credit hours to 1 credit hour
- TH 551 from 4 credit hours to 3 credit hours
- TH 552 from 4 credit hours to 3 credit hours
- TH 601 from 2 credit hours to 3 credit hours
- TH 621 from 2 credit hours to 1 credit hour
- TH 635 from 4 credit hours to 3 credit hours
- TH 672 from 1 credit hour to 2 credit hours

Motion made by Dr. Jolly-Smith to approve the proposed changes, and a second by Dr. Richardson. The motion was approved.

- A focus on Italian for action – course hour and name changed needed on form.

3. Retention and Enrollment work – handouts given

- Dr. Hatton – implemented as developed – send any suggestions/concerns to him – goals not currently established, but coming soon – Graduate Council asked to review – planning conversations will begin this summer – graduate applications currently not funneled through EMAS – until this is done, the communication plan cannot happen – must ensure there are not competing

letters and misleading communications – until there is a communication concerning EMAS, the standard for the communication plan is at a standstill.

- Shelly Moss will be assisting with retention
- Retention goals not as benchmarks at this point.