

Graduate Faculty Council Meeting 19 February 2014

Present: J. Newkirk, V. Allada, L. Costoplos, S. Matson, C. Wilson, V. Hudgins, M. House, R. Landers, S. Long, J. Myers, P. Worsey, V. Yu, D. Tauritz (for B. McMillin), N. Weidner

Not Present: R. Frank, L. Haynes, G. Hilmas, P. Neogi, J. Winiarz, G. Gelles, H. Xiao, N. Maerz, S. Gao, F. Liou, V. Le, H. K. Lee, R. Dubois, C. Daggi, D. Wright, Y. Lin, B. Bai, S.N. Balakrishnan

1) January 29, 2014 Meeting Minutes

- Approved (Motion: Worsey, Seconded: Yu, voted and approved.)

2) Action to suppress 5099 (discussion only- email vote already took place)

- Email vote: 8 for, 2 against
- Conclusion: 5099 will be eliminated

3) Graduate Certificate Plan of Study:

- Draft presented by Office of Graduate Studies.
- Discussion about when form should be submitted.
- Tauritz amendment: "Form is due before the 4th week of the semester in which the final course is taken." 2nd: Long Voted, Approved.
- Motion to approve form with amendment: Myers. 2nd: Long. Voted, Approved.

4) Out-of-department coursework is not required for these students' program of study. The graduate catalog (page 20 under Master of Science Degree Without Thesis) states that "Students are encouraged to take at least six credit hour of coursework outside their major department" but then, on the same page, under "Master's Comprehensive Examination", it states that "The committee must consist of at least five members, including at least one person from outside the candidate's major department who is knowledgeable about the student's chosen out-of-department coursework." This creates a problem for those students that do not take any out-of-department coursework because it is optional.

We would like to request the paragraph on page 20 of the graduate catalog to be changed to: "The committee must consist of at least five members, and it is encouraged that at least one person be from outside the candidate's major department who is knowledgeable about the students chosen out-of-department coursework."

In addition to this change the Form I-B (Committee for Master of Science Comprehensive Exam (Non-Thesis)) and Form 3 (Report on Comprehensive Exam for Master's Degree (Non-Thesis)) would need to include the word "optional" after the signature line for the out-of-department committee member.

(11/25/13, Dr. Singler)

- Worsey: Motion to approve 2nd: Myers. Discussion.
- Tauritz amendment: Change form, add optional.
- Myers amendment: "Encouraged that at least one committee member" (rather than person) 2nd: Tauritz
- Tauritz moved: Change 5th line on form to "committee member (optional out of department). 2nd: Long. Voted, approved.

5) Current practice when transferring graduate credit from other institutions is to require mapping of the class to an MST course. This is in some cases unsatisfactory. There is an example currently before me where a student wishes to transfer in a 6000 level class from another institution, but the only class

we have on that topic is a 200 level class. More importantly, there are always classes closely related to our study areas that we do not offer, but that other institutions do offer, and those classes would benefit our graduate students. I believe we would serve our students best if we allowed those classes to transferred.

I would like to propose a resolution to the Graduate Faculty Council that graduate students be allowed to transfer in courses from other institutions even if there is no 1:1 mapping to existing MST classes, and that a mechanism for that transfer be established. (11/14/13, Dr. Maerz)

- Discussion.
- Maerz motion: Move to have a mechanism discussed by the Office of Graduate Studies to transfer general credit at next meeting. 2nd: Worsey. Voted, Approved.

Items 6, 7, 8, & 9- tabled until the next meeting (out of time)

9) New Business:

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.