

**University Graduate Programs Committee (Via Zoom)**  
**December 9, 2020**  
**Meeting Minutes**

- I. Meeting called to order by GPC Chair, Christopher Beetle at 2:02 pm.
- II. The minutes from the last GPC meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> were unanimously approved.
- III. Announcements
  - A. No announcements from Chair or any of the membership.
- IV. The below items/curriculum proposals were reviewed:

**New Curriculum Proposals for December 9, 2020**

| Curriculum Document Type   | Title   | College (Department) | Credit | Action |
|--|---|----------------------|--------|--------|
| <b>Reviewers by College: CSWCJ, Nursing</b>  |   |                      |        |        |
| Course Change  | PAD6165: Legal and Ethical Issues in Nonprofit Organizations  | Arts & Letters       | 3      | A      |
| Course Change  | PAD6166: Human Resource Management for Nonprofits             | Arts & Letters       | 3      | A      |
| Course Change  | PAD6206: Fundraising for Nonprofits                           | Arts & Letters       | 3      | A      |
| Course Change  | PAD6233: Grantwriting and Project Management                  | Arts & Letters       | 3      | A      |
| Course Change  | PAD6260: Financial Management for Nonprofit Managers          | Arts & Letters       | 3      | A      |
| Program Change   | MA in Women, Gender and Sexual Studies                        | Arts & Letters       | N/A    | A      |
| <b>Reviewers by College: Library, Science</b>  |   |                      |        |        |
| Course Change  | SOW6646: Advanced Theory & SW Practice with Elders & Families | CSWCJ                | 3      | A      |
| <b>Reviewers by College: Arts &amp; Letters, Education</b>                           |   |                      |        |        |
| Course Change  | BME5000: Introduction to Bioengineering                       | Engineering          | 3      | A/C    |
| Course Change  | BME6762: Bioinformatics: Bioengineering Perspectives          | Engineering          | 3      | A/C    |
| Program Change   | Bioengineering Certificate                                    | Engineering          | N/A    | A/C    |
| Program Change   | MS in Bioengineering  | Engineering          | N/A    | A/C    |
| <b>Additional Curricula Items for Review (submitted by UUPC on December 7, 2020)</b> |   |                      |        |        |
| New Combined Degree Program  | BS in Nursing/MS in Artificial Intelligence                   | Engineering          | N/A    | T      |
| New Combined Degree Program  | BS in Nursing/MS in Bioengineering                            | Engineering          | N/A    | T      |

| Reviewers by College: Business, Medicine, Engineering |                                |         |     |   |
|---|--------------------------------|---------|-----|---|
| Program Change  | MA in Psychology               | Science | N/A | A |
| Program Change  | PhD in Experimental Psychology | Science | N/A | A |

A: Approved, A/C: Approved with changes, T: Tabled

### **Arts & Letters**

- a. The Course Change Proposal for PAD6165: Legal and Ethical Issues in Nonprofit Organizations was approved unanimously by the committee.
- b. The Course Change Proposal for PAD6166: Human Resource Management for Nonprofits was approved unanimously by the committee.
- c. The Course Change Proposal for PAD6206: Fundraising for Nonprofits was approved unanimously by the committee.
- d. The Course Change Proposal for PAD6233: Grantwriting and Project Management was approved unanimously by the committee.
- e. The Course Change Proposal for PAD6260: Financial Management for Nonprofit Managers was approved unanimously by the committee.
- f. The Program Change for the MA in Women, Gender and Sexual Studies was approved unanimously by the committee.

### **CSWCJ**

- a. The Course Change Proposal for SOW6646: Advanced Theory & SW Practice with Elders & Families was approved unanimously by the committee.

### **Engineering**

- a. The Course Change Proposal for BME5000: Introduction to Bioengineering was approved unanimously by the committee contingent on the Effective Term on the cover page and the syllabus being changed to Summer 2021.
- b. The Course Change Proposal for BME6762: Bioinformatics: Bioengineering Perspectives was approved unanimously by the committee contingent on the Effective Term on the cover page and the syllabus being changed to Summer 2021.
- c. The Program Change for the Bioengineering Certificate was approved unanimously by the committee contingent on the Effective Term on the cover page and the syllabus being changed to Summer 2021.
- d. The Program Change for the MS in Bioengineering was approved unanimously by the committee contingent on the Effective Term on the cover page and the syllabus being changed to Summer 2021.
- e. The New Combined Degree Program proposal for the BS in Nursing/MS in Artificial Intelligence was Tabled by the committee pending review and submission of the flight plan & review of the excess hours issue.
- f. The New Combined Degree Program proposal for the BS in Nursing/MS in Bioengineering was Tabled by the committee pending review and submission of the flight plan & review of the excess hours issue.

## Science

- a. The Program Change for the MA in Psychology was approved unanimously by the committee.
- b. The Program Change for the PhD in Experimental Psychology was approved unanimously by the committee.

### V. Discussion Items

#### A. Professional PhD with Major in Computer Science – Chris Beetle, GPC Chair

1. At the February, 2020 GPC Meeting, after discussion, it was felt that GPC did not have sufficient information or expertise to discuss this further. Nevertheless, this item was sent forward to UGC for consideration. During the February, 2020 UGC meeting, an email was sent from the Provost's office asking that this item, and others, be withdrawn. UGC moved this item along, as GPC had, to go to the Senate Steering meeting in March, 2020 along with the Action Item memo. At the March, 2020 Senate Steering meeting, the entire Action Agenda, along with the memo, were pulled and this item has been lingering on the table since then. When it went back to Faculty Senate in December, 2020 it did so without the memo and, somehow, the copy they received was unsigned. It was returned to GPC for that reason.
2. Does anyone in GPC have any other issues with this item before it is sent back through the process? Academic Planning & Budget (AP&B) → Steering → Faculty Senate.
  - a. Bob Stackman: Is a dissertation even necessary for this type of program? As these are working professionals, is the dissertation even necessary?
    - i. Anita Pennathur: In the College of Business, the degree is a general degree with the dissertation being in a specific area.
  - b. Chris Beetle: Other programs are based on current and on-going work environments of the candidates.
    - i. Mihaela Cardei: These candidates' experiences would apply directly to their dissertation.
  - c. Eric Berlatsky: Self-sustaining programs, in A&L, are generally the purview of tenured Graduate faculty, not adjuncts or non-tenured.
    - i. Mihaela: Agreed that candidates would expect fully tenured faculty to be teaching these types of courses.
  - d. Iselgis Garcia: Pertaining to the 25% overload max per semester, the College of Engineering monitors this and makes sure this is not an issue. It never has been in the past.
  - e. Bob Stackman: There are many programs similar to this one that don't end in a dissertation but rather with a capstone project instead.
3. Chris Beetle: This item will move forward to AP&B meeting in January, 2021.

4. Chris Beetle proposed that the other two (2) PhD program from the February, 2020 GPC should be rescinded until the outcome of this program is resolved and understood so that they may be reconsidered with all the data and information available.
  - i. A motion was made and seconded to rescind the other two (2) PhD programs from the February, 2020 GPC agenda.
    - a. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote of the GPC membership.
- B. Discussion of process for Combined Degree programs – Chris Beetle, GPC Chair
  1. Should programs of this type be required to UUPC approval *prior* to moving to GPC and, subsequently, UGC or can they be done simultaneously?
    - i. A motion was made and seconded to submit a proposal to UGC for simultaneous consideration of these Combined Programs by Graduate and Undergraduate committees.
      - a. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote of the GPC membership.
- C. Attendance Verification Discussion – Bob Stackman, Graduate College Dean (working on this, at Provost’s request, with Ed Pratt, Undergraduate Dean)
  1. This is being brought before the GPC in order to make them aware of this issue and, possibly, to resolve this issue. Possible use of Canvas in order to verify attendance of students in class ie: syllabus quiz.
    - a. Chris: What about instances where courses/professors are not using Canvas?
    - b. Eric: Some students never log-in to Canvas?
    - c. Chris: Instead of using a syllabus quiz, could we implement a “Contact Information” module into Canvas. This would not require any modification on the part of faculty.
    - d. Brian Hodge: Students taking multiple courses could see this multiple times. It might cause confusion!
      - i. Could there be a check-box to indicate this has already been completed?
      - ii. Brian: Federal requirements are related to the last time the student did something in the course.
  2. Bob Stackman will take the recommendations to Ed Pratt and see if they can come up with a solution that will work for everyone.

## VI. Roundtable Discussion

- A. Bob Stackman: GradCAS is rolling out. Very exciting! Should improve our application process dramatically and is much more user-friendly than current system.
- B. Bob Stackman: Graduate Health Insurance is here & on-going!
- C. Bob Stackman: Application numbers are up as well!

VII. Meeting adjourned by Christopher Beetle, GPC Chair, at 4:07 p.m.

*The next Graduate Programs Committee meeting is January 27, 2021.*