

University Graduate Programs Committee (Via Zoom)
September 8, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Chris Beetle, Lisa Dario (new member), Bob Stackman, Thomas O'Brien, Beth King, David Menachof, Mihaela Cardei, Williams Kalies, Eric Berlatsky, Arthur Sementelli, Anita Pennathur, Liana Smith, Paul Peluso, Debra Szabo

- I. Meeting called to order by GPC Chair, Christopher Beetle, at 2:02pm.
- II. Announcements/Additional Discussion Items
 - A. Chris explained the purpose on the proposal to handle decisions uniformly within the committee. He explained there will be a separate agenda for items submitted after the deadline. Each item will require a vote to consider it. If meetings runs over and items were not covered, the supplementary agenda will be tabled. He then opened floor for any comments.
 - 1. Beth King: Thinks it is clear.
 - 2. Art Sementelli: Questioned: So, if we run out of time, the item gets tabled?
 - i. Chris: Yes, that is correct.
 - 3. Paul Peluso: Made a motion to approve this proposal; seconded by Art.
 - i. Motion was approved unanimously.
 - 4. Dr. Stackman: This will help Brian Farrell to field these requests to keep meetings at appropriate length.
- III. The minutes from the Combined GPC/UGC Organizational Meeting held on August 18, 2021 were approved.
- IV. Curricula items submitted for review and approval by GPC
 - A. The below items/curriculum proposals were reviewed:

Curriculum Document Type	Title	College (Department)	Credit	Action
Reviewers by College: Education, Library				
New Course	ISM6645: Blockchain and Digital Business Transformation	Business	3	
Reviewers by College: A&L, Education				
New Course	SUR6331: Digital Photogrammetry and Image Interpretation Note: This item was tabled at the August 18, 2021 GPC meeting pending receipt of a memo/email of support from Geosciences, which email has been received and updated here.	Engineering	3	

Business

- a. The New Course Proposal for ISM6645: Blockchain and Digital Business Transformation was approved unanimously by the committee.

Engineering

- a. The New Course Proposal for SUR6331: Digital Photogrammetry and Image Interpretation was approved unanimously by the committee.

V. Discussion Items

- A. Dr. Stackman: Discussed the task from provost brought up last week to come up with policy for supervisor of dissertation of summer and compensation. Chris put together a draft for sub-committee to comment on.
 1. Beth: Question – What about faculty not assigned during summer term and students working on dissertation over summer?
 - i. Chris: We need to clarify that when faculty is under assignment per term and compensation.
 2. Chris: The policy should make clear that if faculty are supervising a dissertation it should be listed on their annual assignment.
 3. Language should depend on the colleges and their budget
 4. Chris: We should, as a committee, look at the draft to then move it forward with proposals.
 5. Paul: I will reorganize and set another meeting for the subcommittee to draft the policy and bring to UGC for discussion and, possibly, a vote.
- B. Art: My phone number extension on website is incorrect. Please correct.
- C. Discussion of how CARES funds are being spent. The objective is to provide support to Graduate students
 1. 1st initiative: To allow student to finish their dissertation and to provide them the time needed to finish. Timing of awarding was late, so a number of programs had assigned students TA positions. Working with units to figure out strategy for next semester to apply the CARES funds. Initially, it was thought that funds would only be able to be spent in 1st academic year but funding actually can be stretched out longer. Now students on delayed doctoral student lists can be pivoted to GRA positions with stipend via CARES funds. Student will be provided 2 semesters of stipend support.
 2. 2nd initiative: With COECS, we should recognize faculty with external grants and paying GRA. Now that labs are open, faculty are not able to support this. This initiative is geared toward providing 6 months of support. This was approved and funding is being dispersed.
 3. 3rd initiative: Recognition from COS – to request a one-time bonus similar to what faculty was provided. Dr. Stackman is working on this and advocating for support.
 4. Chris: Question about 2nd initiative. How is this program advertised to faculty? He has not heard of it.

5. Dean Stackman: Contacted deans and associate deans of research and graduate studies at each college and asked if research was delayed, or was student able to continue.

VI. Meeting adjourned by Christopher Beetle, GPC Chair, at 2:48 p.m.

The next Graduate Program Committee meeting is October 6, 2021.