

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE February 24, 2014 MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

- PLACE:** Couper Administration Building - Room148
- PRESIDING:** Susan Strehle, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School
- MEMBERS:** Serdar Atav, David Bartine, Subimal Chatterjee, Gerald Kutcher, Kristina Lambright, Kenneth McLeod, Chuck Nelson, Sara Reiter, Timothy Singler, Pam Smart, Libby Tucker
- EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:** Elizabeth Brown, Sarah Lam, Paul Parker, Mary Beth Curtin
- EXCUSED/ABSENT:** Cassandra Bransford, Karen Bromley, George Catalano, Shelley Dionne, Peter Fiduccia, Samantha Fox, Norah Henry, Nicholas Kaldis, Adam Laats, Susan Lu, Benita Roth, Omowunmi Sadik, Steven Tammariello, Linda Wong, Mohammad Younis

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Dean Susan Strehle called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

II. MINUTES

The minutes from the December 9th graduate council meeting were approved as written.

III. COMMITTEES

Academic Standards Committee The committee last met on November 11, 2013 and is scheduled to meet again on March 3, 2014.

Advisory Committee for Scholarship and Research ACSR evaluated applications for the interdisciplinary collaboration grants program in consultation with all the TAE groups. The awards have been made; information and abstracts are posted on the TAE web pages. The spring call for proposals is out now and proposals are due March 14; faculty can propose projects for the open ICG call or one of the TAE teams. About \$200,000 will be awarded between the TAEs and the open ICG proposals. Each of the TAEs will appoint reviewers who will work with ACSR to review proposals designated toward their teams.

The call for proposals for new organized research centers is also out with a deadline of April 1. The intent is to designate one new organized research center this year with approximately \$60,000 in seed funding.

The research division has made \$150,000 available for awards for graduate assistants for the organized research centers. We are funding 10 students in 7 different centers.

Finally, ACSR will be meeting to review all of the organized research centers over the next few months as their annual reports come in. Requirements for annual reports have been revised with the intent of lightening the workload on the people writing those reports and making them more efficient in terms of highlighting accomplishments through the year. Reviewers from ACSR will send their comments forward to be combined and made available to the directors of the ORCs.

Budget Advisory Committee This committee has not met.

Clark Fellowship Committee This committee has not met.

Curriculum Committee The committee met on February 17, 2014 to discuss several items. The first referenced changing three geography course titles to reflect better sequencing and content. The titles to change: Geography 503 A and B from *GIS in Visual Basic* changing to *Programming in GIS*; Geography 532 from *Remote Sensing of the Environment* changing to *Introduction to Remote Sensing*; and Geography 550 from *Photogrammetry* changing to *Advanced Remote Sensing*. No questions were raised and the proposals were approved without dissent by the Graduate Council.

SPAN 583 *Topics in Teaching Methodology* is a two-credit course offered only in the summer, primarily for K-12 Spanish instructors. It is one of the courses that the Romance Languages Department plans to offer in a teaching professional development program, designed for current high school teachers. No questions were raised and the course stands approved.

The MSW program requests to change its requirements, moving from a two semester research sequence to a one semester course in research and adding one elective for their master's students. No questions were raised, and the change stands approved.

The Bioengineering department proposes to revise the existing MS and PhD program in biomedical engineering, changing the number of credits for core coursework from 18 or 19 to 12, requiring 2 semesters of graduate seminars for both masters and PhD students. Non-thesis master's students will require a termination project as well as a plan of study. The department also proposes to establish a 4/1 program leading to the combined BS and MS in Biomedical Engineering. The degree will allow them to increase graduate enrollment and attract quality students from their current undergraduate program. No questions were raised and both proposals stand approved.

History proposes to establish a 4/1 or combined degree program, double counting 2 graduate courses toward both degree programs. No questions were raised and the proposal stands approved.

The School of Pharmacy proposal had raised questions in the curriculum committee. The first was in regard to the budget for library, which should include an inflationary cost of 7%, and which might require additional resources once the school is established. The university hired a consultant who helped write the proposal; he indicated that schools of pharmacy often do not have a separate librarian. They do have a separate library, but not always a separate head of pharmacy libraries.

Dean Strehle indicated that pharmacy education is regulated by a rigorous accreditation agency call the ACPE (Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education). They require that faculty teaching in the program report directly to the dean of pharmacy, so faculty in other departments could teach only if they were listed as adjuncts; these situations are unlikely.

The campus has received a pledge of 60 million dollars from Governor Cuomo to construct a new building for the program, so the crush on classrooms will not be a problem. The plan is to build a separate, specialized facility in Johnson City to house the school of pharmacy and research facilities for pharmacy faculty. The plan calls for the dean to be hired in the summer of 2015 and the first 2 senior faculty to be hired with tenure in 2016. That group will then hire the rest of the faculty, before the first class of students arrive in 2017. Pharmacy students have to do two kinds of placements where they actually work as pharmacists. The simpler kind is done during the 2nd and 3rd year of a 4 year program; these are called introductory pharmacy practice experiences. In the 4th year, students take no courses, but spend full time in advanced pharmacy practices. Some of these clinical placements must be in the hospital working with people who are seriously ill; they have to compound drugs and deal with patients who are on IV medications, etc. To make the clinical placements work, President Stenger and Provost Nieman have secured agreements from UHS, Lourdes and the Greater Binghamton Health Center; we have pledges from them indicating that they not only support the proposal but that they will also accept our students for pharmacy placements.

The council approved the pharmacy proposal with 9 yes votes plus 4 yes in absentia, 1 no vote and 0 abstentions.

Student Affairs Committee This committee has not met.

Strategic Planning Committee This committee will be called upon to meet in the spring and will be tasked with figuring out what kinds of functions properly belong to the graduate school.

Clark Advisory Committee The committee met on February 13 to review a couple of nominations that came in by the February 1 deadline. No offers have been made yet. The committee will be meeting on March 14, 2014 to review the nominations that are submitted by the March deadline. There are about 10 openings for the next academic year.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Dean Strehle discussed planning for increased graduate enrollment. The president announced that he would like the campus to double graduate enrollment, to have 6000 graduate students by 2020. Some students will be added with pharmacy, and there will be additional funding for doctoral students; much of it will come in the form of expanded master's enrollments. Most research universities have a larger percentage of master's students than we do, and we need that layer of self-supporting masters students. President Stenger has formed a committee to develop more career, professional and practice oriented master's degrees in a program which he calls the 4-1-1: 4 years bachelor, 1 year in the masters program and one year in an internship/externship/work experience placement.

The 4-1-1 committee has met and decided that the program would be more competitive as a 4-1, rather than 4-1-1, because students will find it more affordable as a 1 year degree. The committee feels that the internship could be paid or unpaid, depending on the field, given academic credit or not, built into summer, winter, or the semester. If the internship were built into master's degrees, it could expand master's enrollments and at the same time expand the career options of students who finish their degrees. If we build a strong program using internships, it will help recruit undergraduates because Binghamton graduates will have an advantage in finding good jobs.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 after a motion by Ken McLeod and seconded by Serdar Atav.

Minutes recorded by Melissa Spencer,
Secretary to the Vice Provost and Dean
of the Graduate School