

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE April 24, 2017 MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

- PLACE:** Couper Administration Building – Room 148
- PRESIDING:** Susan Strehle, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School
- MEMBERS:** Elizabeth Anderson (for Adam Laats), Anne Clark, Mary Beth Curtin, Shelley Dionne, Fernando Guzman, Heather DeHaan, Curtis Kendrick, Michael Lewis, Elizabeth Mellin, Pamela Mischen, Sara Reiter, Pam Sandoval, Daryl Santos, Steven Tammariello, Libby Tucker, Leigh Ann Wheeler
- GSO:** Abdulrahman Alwuhayb, Jenn Dum, Kendall Geed, Plash Sachdeva, Thomas Mastro
- EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:** Sarah Lam
- EXCUSED/ABSENT:** Subimal Chatterjee, Kevin Hatch, Mohammad Khasawneh, Ricardo Laremont, Alistair Lees, Patrick Madden, Rosmarie Morewedge, Tim Perry, Vicky Rizzo, Gale Spencer

I. CALL TO ORDER:

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

II. MINUTES

The minutes from the March 20, 2017 were approved as written.

III. COMMITTEES

Academic Standards Committee This committee has not met.

Advisory Committee for Scholarship and Research This committee has met several times this spring. Committee members reviewed applications for the Interdisciplinary Collaboration Grants program; they evaluated proposals for new Organized Research Centers; and they reviewed annual reports from each of the existing Organized Research Centers and Institutes for Advanced Studies. The committee has planned an extended retreat in May to discuss potential improvements for next year.

Student Affairs/Budget Advisory Committee This committee met on April 24, 2017 to evaluate 68 applications from graduate students for travel funds. Awards were made, mostly for partial funding, to 22 applicants who had reached ABD status.

Clark Advisory Committee This committee met on April 3, 2017 to consider new nominees for Clark Fellowship funding and selected additional students to receive funding. The new funding model will enable up to 25 new Clarks to receive funding in the next academic year. Fifteen offers have been accepted by April 15, and twelve offers have been added for new nominees.

Curriculum Committee This committee met on April 3, 2017 to discuss two program revision proposals. The first one was Anthropology, which proposes to alter requirements for two core courses, 501 (to be required only for students without a previous anthropology degree, except those students in public archaeology) and 504 (to be replaced by another methods or distribution course). These changes were recommended by the Curriculum Committee and no objections were raised in Council.

The second was a request to revise the MPA Capstone Experience, substituting a capstone portfolio. Members of the program explained the reasons for the change and the value to students of the e-portfolio;

they presented information, with PowerPoint slides, about what the e-portfolio will include. The changes were recommended by the Curriculum Committee and no objections were raised in Council.

Four Letters of Intent were shared with Graduate Council members for their information: in Health Promotion and Nutrition, Integrative Nutrition, Forensic Health, and Exercise Science. LOIs do not need faculty evaluation and approval before they leave campus, but they are shared so Council members are aware of the intent to develop programs. These 4 come from Health and Wellness, and they are not well staffed at present by tenured or tenure-track faculty: there is one faculty member in Forensic Health, one in Nutrition, and none in Exercise Science. The proposals may follow in the next year.

Strategic Planning Committee This committee has not met.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Susan explained that she had updated the Bylaws to bring them up to date, making non-controversial changes that reflected current titles (Dean of Libraries) and roles. Distributed with the minutes was a proposed substantive revision, removing 2 representatives from Education, adding 1 to CCPA in light of the addition of Education as a department, and adding 2 representatives from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SOPPS). Fernando suggested further revisions to the representation, based on the numbers of faculty. Council decided to use the suggested numbers for the short-term, to guide representation on the 2017-18 Graduate Council; members will come back to the question of how representatives should be allocated to the schools and colleges next year.

The School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences presented their Bulletin copy to Grad Council, explaining that customs within pharmacy schools differ from some existing policies in graduate programs at Binghamton. The D grade (carrying 1 grade point) is used in pharmacy, which admits students with a 2.75 average and graduates them with a 2.5 average (while other graduate programs at Binghamton do not use the D and require a 3.0 at entry and a 3.0 to graduate). Council approved the requested policies for SOPPS at Binghamton and endorsed the Bulletin copy.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Susan thanked Council members for their valuable work at the conclusion of her last Graduate Council meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. after a motion by Michael Lewis, seconded by Steven Tamariello.

Minutes recorded by Susan Strehle,
Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School