

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 25, 2019 MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

PLACE: Couper Administration Building – Room 148

PRESIDING: Aondover Tarhule, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

MEMBERS: Peter Borgesen, Paul Chiarot, Mary Beth Curtin, Nikolay Dimitrov, Rory Echkart, Olga Gonzalez (GSO), Yetrib Hathout, Kimberly Jaussi, Lucky Mason-Williams, Andrea Pape, Xingye Qiao, Pamela Smart, Gale Spencer, Douglas Summerville, Nathan Turney, Nancy Um, Leo Wilton

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Gretchen Mahler, Sara Reiter

EXCUSED/ABSENT: Manoj Agarwal, Christopher Bishop, David Campbell, George Catalano, Liu Chen, Robert Guay, Matthew Johnson, Curtis Kendrick, Adam Laats, Tarun Mastana (GSO), Paul Parker, Nadia Rubaii, Leigh Ann Wheeler, Chenrui Zhao (GSO)

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Dean Tarhule called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm

II. MINUTES

The minutes from the December 10, 2018 meeting were approved with a few minor revisions.

III. Report from Committees

The Curriculum Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, February 18, 2019 did not hold because the committee did not have a quorum (only two voting members were present). Dean Tarhule acknowledged the unfortunate coincidence of factors that led to the many absences but encouraged members to inform his office in a timely manner when an upcoming absence is foreseeable. He reported that the Graduate School is under pressure to move the many proposals under review forward. He asked for suggestions about the best way to respond to this unprecedented situation. After discussions, Council agreed to act on the proposals with the understanding that this situation is unusual; Council does not intend its actions to become precedent for reviewing proposals not previously recommended by the Curriculum Committee. It was reinforced that Council members should make every effort to attend meetings as the colleagues who elected them are counting on the Council to fulfil its campus governance mission.

Academic Standards Committee -- The committee met on February 11, 2019. Gretchen Mahler presented the draft language related to copyrights and embargoes in respect of

previously published work included as part of a student's dissertation. Students have the option to embargo their dissertations anywhere from 6 months to 2 years. During discussions, it emerged that with respect to images in the fine arts, standard practice requires a student only to demonstrate good faith effort in obtaining copyright permission. In light of other suggested changes, the Council decided to revisit the document at the next Academic Standards Meeting to be held on March 4. Members were encouraged to consult their departments and send further suggestions to Gretchen Mahler.

Curriculum Committee – Gretchen Mahler presented the proposals awaiting review by the Curriculum Committee.

The first three (3) proposals were TRIP 535 – Spanish for Reading & Translation; TRIP 545 – German Reading & Translation; TRIP 525 – French for Reading & Translation.

Beth Polzin, Coordinator for the program was on hand to answer questions regarding the proposals. All three (3) proposals seek to establish the courses as permanent. These courses were identified following a survey that TRIP sent out to several departments. The survey sought to find out how TRIP could support other departments with language instruction. An issue is the fact that graduate students in certain disciplines need to complete a language requirement in order to fulfill their degree obligations. TRIP will offer these courses as one-credit, taught by a graduate student TA under the guidance of a tenured/tenure-track faculty member. Harpur Deans Office will provide financial support for the TA. The Council debated the merits of having the course graded as pass/fail (the current proposal) versus letter graded. A conundrum emerged. If the course is letter graded, it cannot be taught by graduate students. If the course is pass/fail graded, it will not count toward residency. The Council felt there were enough questions and issues that further discussion will be needed. The three (3) proposals will go to Curriculum Committee on March 11 to be discussed in a smaller group. The upcoming course building deadlines, as well as the need to advertise these courses make the proposals time sensitive. The proposal will be brought back to Council after the Curriculum Committee has reviewed and made its recommendations.

The next three (3) proposals to be reviewed were in nursing. The first one is NURS 581P – Forensic Health: Sexual Offending and Victimization. Mary Muscari, Associate Professor

of Nursing and Dean Mario Ortiz were present to answer questions. The course, which will be offered to Graduate and Undergraduate students, has been proposed in response to student demand. The course will help students to better understand the offender, making practitioners less likely to blame the victim. This is a Graduate level course, offered online, to help increase summer enrollment. The current projected enrollment is 10. The Council voted and approved the course to be accepted with the understanding the proposal will take out the cross listing reference.

The next two (2) Nursing course proposals were NURS 569 – Psychiatric Nurse Education II and NURS 561 – Psychiatric Nurse Educator I. These courses are not time sensitive and Nursing agreed to wait for the Curriculum Committee to formally review and recommend them to the Council. The two courses will be placed on the next Curriculum Committee meeting and presented to Graduate Council March 25.

Gretchen Mahler presented 10 Program Revision Proposals.

There are three (3) different nursing proposals. All seek to add online components to existing courses. The programs include Doctor of Nursing Practice Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner; Doctor of Nursing Practice Family Nurse Practitioner; Family Psychiatric Mental Health Practitioner. Dean Mario Ortiz was present to present the proposals and answer questions. Each proposal comprised two parts; a revised proposal (Form 3a) and an online version (form 4a). These programs were registered and offered prior to 2014. There are only minor changes. NURS 655 DNP Practicum Experience is no longer required. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Doctoral Essentials has also changed its competency requirements to a minimum of 1,000 hours of practice post-baccalaureate as part of a supervised academic program. The proposed revisions will keep DSON competitive with other programs. The overall credit requirement will be reduced from 77 to 74-credit minimum and 77 for those who opt to take NURS 655 as an elective. In response to a question about instructors, Dean Ortiz clarified that tenure track faculty will design the courses to be taught by teaching assistants. The Council approved all three (3) proposals which will now move onto the next campus stage.

Dean Tarhule alerted the Council that the move to online education has revealed many issues not currently covered or anticipated by existing policies. In the near future, Council will be called upon to address this gap, which will require developing new policies and revising some existing policies. Examples include add/drop dates and continuing registration, among others.

The next revisions are from the TLEL Department. The first one discussed was the TESOL (Teaching English as a Second Language) Advanced Certification. This professional certificate requires 16 credits. The certificate is designed for teachers certified or seeking New York State certification to teach English to speakers of other languages. The proposal will provide high quality graduate level instruction aligned with national standards, and targeted toward improving opportunities for diverse population of teachers and learners. The necessary faculty is currently in place and courses currently exist. The proposal was approved and will move onto the next campus steps. As a professional certificate, it will have to be sent to SUNY for ultimate approval.

The next program revision discussed was the Public Administration MPA. Brianna King, Director of Admissions and Student Services was present to outline the revisions and answer questions. The overall credit hours and the primary core courses have not changed. However, some core courses have been added or altered, and the culminating experience/final assessment course has been changed to reflect advancement in the field and evolving accreditation standards of the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA). The MPA proposes a capstone presentation based on students' internships as part of the new e-portfolio requirement. The course will begin in the first semester and students will progressively add to the portfolio based on their experiences. Grading will change from pass/fail to letter graded. Brianna King assured that the course is designed to require synthesis and integration consistent with the expectations of the capstone. The Council approved the revisions. It will move onto the next campus steps.

The next proposal revision was Student Affairs Administration. The revision is very similar to the MPA revision. Brianna King, Director of Admissions and Student Services was present to outline the revisions and answer questions. The revision of the program is to give a

different culminating experience from a comprehensive examination to a professional portfolio. This proposal does not change the required number of credits. The move from the comprehensive examination to a professional portfolio will provide a more meaningful culminating experience for the students to complete the core courses. The professional portfolio will allow integration across the entire program, rather than just the first half. The Council approved the revisions to move onto the next campus level with the understanding the correct box will be checked and the new document sent.

The next three (3) revisions to review were Spanish/Spanish Adolescence Education; Mathematical Science/Mathematics Adolescence Education; French/French Adolescence Education. These programs were discontinued when TLEL took core courses from four (4) credit hours down to three (3) credit hours. There were some accelerated programs that became difficult to reconstruct. The decision was made to discontinue these programs and now they are being reactivated as new proposals. With the change in credit hours from 4 to 3, it became difficult for students to qualify for graduate standing by their fourth year. During discussions, there was concern about the large number of courses (11) double counted toward the under graduate and graduate degrees. There were enough questions raised by Council that the decision was made to postpone approval and have all three (3) reviewed by Curriculum Council on March 11. Additionally, some Council members noted that concerns had been raised in the past about whether all departments contributing toward the double degrees were sufficiently informed and supportive. It was also suggested when dual departments are included, a letter of sign off is submitted with the paperwork to have an accurate trail of agreement. Candace Mulcahy, Chair of TLEL will be notified of the Council's decision to review all three (3) proposals next month.

The next program for review was the Sustainable Communities/Public Archaeology Double Degree Program. Double degrees programs are approved only at the campus level. The MA/MS degree in Sustainable Communities requires 38 credits hours and the MA in Archeology require 40 credit hours. The total number of hours that may be double counted is 16. It was pointed out that Public Archaeology is only a track in the masters degree in Anthropology. The Council was supportive of moving this dual degree to next campus steps

as long as the program is changed to reflect the wording that it is Sustainable Communities/Anthropology with specialization in Public Archaeology. The Department will be notified to make the change.

The final program for review was the Accelerated Degree in Human Development & Human Rights Five Year Combined Degree. Council member, Leo Wilton, was present to answer questions. The Human Development (BS & Master of Human Rights, MSHR) combined program will restrict admissions to students with exceptional academic record. Students should apply for the combined program no later than the beginning of the junior year and admission decisions for the combined program will be made no later than spring of junior year. The Department will work with the Graduate School Faculty Fellow, Leslie Heywood, to ensure the Accelerated Degree was comprehensive. The Council approved the documents and it will move onto the next campus steps.

Advisory Committee for Scholarship and Research – The committee continues to meet once a week. Mary Beth Curtin reported that the committee should have the recommendations to be distributed soon. The Annual reports are due in May and the Committee will review soon.

Student Affairs/Budget Advisory Committee – This committee met on February 20, 2019. There is very exciting work to be done in the committee but the committee was not yet ready to disclose this information yet. Hopefully Gretchen Mahler can begin to share with the Council soon.

Clark Advisory Committee – This committee met on January 25, 2019. Gretchen Mahler stated there were fifteen (15) nominations and seven (7) offers have been made. One offer has been accepted as of today. The next deadline for nominations is March 1. There is a low number of nominations this year. The Committee will consider the next nominations and make a decision within one week of the deadline.

Strategic Planning Committee – This committee has not met.

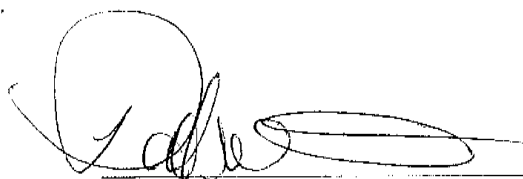
IV. NEW BUSINESS

Dean Tarhule gave an update on the Fulbright fellowship because it was requested by some Council members. He reported that expenses on Fulbright Fellowships had increased from 37% of the Graduate School's tuition budget in 2015-216 to 63% during the current academic year. The reason for the growth is that Binghamton pays full tuition for fellowship recipients, making us an attractive choice, hence the phenomenal growth in the program. But the growth is no longer sustainable. Therefore, the Graduate School will cap future expenses to 51% of the Graduate School tuition budget. The Graduate School is working with academic deans and department chairs to see if they will cost share the tuition for Fulbright fellows. The Graduate School is also consulting with Fulbright advisors to try to understand what impacts this change might have on Fellowship numbers to Binghamton University.

Dean Tarhule apologized for not introducing Leo Wilton and Rory Eckhart at the beginning of the meeting. The two will take the place of two elected members who have a teaching conflict for the rest of the year. The Council has one vacancy that has not yet been filled.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m. after a motion was made by Kimberly Jaussi and seconded by Xingye Qiao.



Minutes recorded by Patty Gabriel,
Executive Secretary to the Vice Provost and Dean
of the Graduate School