Graduate Council
Agenda—Thursday, January 18, 2018, 2:00 p.m.
Academic Affairs Conference Room WAB 239

Members Present: Kirk Atkinson, Alex Lebedinsky, Carl Myers, Carl Dick, Dominic Lanphier, Eric Reed, Ann Ferrell, Allie Crume, Amy Cappiccie, Maire Blankenship, Richard Dressler, Clarissa Lightsy, Scott Lyons

Members Absent: Leyla Zhuhadar, Towhid Mahmood, Martha Day, Justavian Tillman, Chris Groves, Mercy Ebuette, Wes Berry, Molly Kerby, Kristie Guffey, Gabrielle Bradley, Divya Gangavelli

Guests: Sylvia Gaiko, Scott Gordon, Colette Chelf, Laura Burchfield, Cathleen Webb, Danita Kelley, Tiffany Robinson

1. Call to Order
*Atkinson called quorum. It was determined 50% + 1 was present.
*Carl Dick Called to Order

2. Consideration of December 7, 2017 minutes (Appendix A)
*Dick/Cappiccie make a motion to approve minutes; passed.

3. Graduate Enrollment Report (Appendix B)
*Lyons reported that overall enrollment is down 13, down 70 on the international side, and up 57 on the domestic side. The political situation is not currently conducive to recruiting international students. The silver lining is we are up in the domestic categories. 
*Chelf added that the POS forms were very back logged due to short staff and snow. The unprocessed POS forms will prevent students from registering. The enrollment numbers will improve as POS forms are approved.

4. Committee Reports

a. Policy Committee: Admissions Policy (Appendix C)
*Carl Dick reported that the policy committee is still short a chair.
*The admission’s policy was tabled in December; Lyons did not think this policy change was necessary. He thought the additional language was not required; Atkinson was told the Graduate School only looks at the undergraduate degree GPA; Lyons explained a Bachelorette
degree cumulative GPA 2.75 or higher is required. He said they have to say something there because people do confer bachelorette degrees with a lower GPA. Masters degrees are not conferred lower than 3.0; Danita Kelley believed it was a clarity issue; Cappiccie asked about students who had only done some graduate work; Lyons said that they have made exceptions when students show sufficient proficiency. He understood the debate regarding the clarity issue regarding the GPA; Dick explained that Kristin Wilson was rather animated that this policy should pass. They believed that the change would assist transparency with students; Lyons did not see potential issues with the change; Chelf commented that the language was edited to reflect a regionally accredited institution instead of just an accredited institution; Reed mentioned we already have conditional admission for students who do not meet our admission requirements. It was also mentioned that international students are not allowed to be conditionally issued; Dressler asked if the international institution grade point averages reconfigure to meet the US grade point average formulas; Gordon explained that whenever they get an international transcript they evaluate it and change it to US domestic equivalent GPA. The overall consensus was that the language should be added.

*Carl Dick calls for a vote; passed.

b. Curriculum Committee: Kirk Atkinson (Appendix D)
*Atkinson/Dressler makes a motion to pass report as is; passed.

c. Student Research Grants Committee: No report; next applications due 31 January 2018
*Cappiccie will co-chair with Berry.

5. Report from Dean of the Graduate School: Dean Scott Lyons
*Lyons discussed the new appeal committee. The committee will include Kurt Neelly, Lisa Murley, Carrie Trojan, and Dr. Lyons.
*Chelf reported that the POS is with IT. She explained how the lack of holds will change the records process. For example, certificate students were no longer being required to have a POS. The certificate POS will be required again since their advising hold is being taken away. The necessary changes are being made to allow certificate POS capabilities.
*Lyons reported on the RFP presentations. They are considering the pros and cons for each. They will likely visit a couple of banner schools.
*Lunch and Learn series will be kicking off next month.
*Lyons is looking into potential speakers for April.
*The Graduate School newsletter is still in progress. Corie Martin is working on how to allow it to be sent via email. He is considering a name change for the newsletter.
*There is going to be a Tibetan Monk on campus. The monk could potentially be this semester’s speaker. He is more than willing to meet with classes. He will also have musicians with him. Lyons is still gathering information on his talents.
*The coordinators received emails regarding two research conferences. Louisville’s abstract submission deadline was originally Friday. It was then extended until the 26th.
6. Public Comments
*Carl Dick will start his sabbatical on Monday. Atkinson will be running the next meeting. Kristin Wilson will return in March.

7. Announcements & Adjourn
*Dick/Atkinson motion to adjourn