

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES October 28, 2013

The Graduate Council met on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 2:00 P.M. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Paul Solomon, Chair; Drs. Alexander Beecroft, Nancy Brown, Erik Drasgow, Stacy Fritz, Jerry Hilbish, J. Daniel Jenkins, DeAnne Messias, Caroline Nagel, Tracey Weldon-Stewart, Terrance Weik, Brittany Walter (GSA).

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Matt Brown, Wayne Carver, David Darmofal, Minuette Floyd, Thomas Kramer, Julia Lopez-Robertson, Elena Osokina

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Jessica Elfenbein and Teresa Smith

Provost Office Representative: Dr. Kristia Finnigan

NOTE: These minutes will become final on November 25, 2013, if not challenged.

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda (Paul Solomon)

Dr. Solomon called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes (September 23, 2013).

The minutes were reviewed electronically and approved by the Council. Minutes are on file at The Graduate School website at: http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp

3. Report of the Chair (Paul Solomon)

No report.

4. Report of the Dean of The Graduate School (Jessica Elfenbein reported for Lacy Ford)

Dr. Elfenbein announced that the Fall Graduate Directors meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 30 from 12:30-2:30pm in the Russell House Theatre. The meeting will include content that is mandatory for all Graduate Directors.

Due to an agreement between the University of South Carolina and the Department of Justice, mandatory attendance is required to discuss confidentiality of student records. Please notify your graduate directors, undergraduate directors and any administrators who advise students or sponsor student clubs and organizations that attendance is mandatory. If this meeting time is inconvenient, there will be additional training dates available through The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE). In addition, the first winner of the University's three minute dissertation competition will be presenting at the meeting.

The Provost's office is monitoring meeting attendance and the mandatory order was issued and will be enforced by Christine Curtis in the Provosts office.

Travel Grant applications for Spring, January 1 through June 30, open on November 1. This is a first come first served funding opportunity available until the funds are depleted. Please let your colleagues and students know about the time-frame to apply.

Graduate Student Day 2014 is scheduled for Friday, April 11.

5. Report of the Associate Dean / Secretary of the Graduate Council (Murray Mitchell)

Dr. Mitchell commented that support for the three minute dissertation is a trend regionally and nationally. It is an opportunity for students to compete at conferences and win cash prizes. It gives masters and doctoral students an opportunity to concisely describe in an interesting way their displinary focus. Once approved, presentations of University students will be placed online. There are currently presentations on YouTube.com. However, it would be significant to see our own students' work.

The Graduate School is currently refining procedures for processing Graduate Council paperwork. Please share with your department when submitting new course proposals or course change proposals that only the original is necessary to the submitted to Graduate Council. No additional copies are needed.

Registrar's office is still in the process of updating bulletin entries. Dr. Mitchell will keep the Council apprised of the progress. An updated copy of the Graduate Council roster was submitted to be updated soon.

Regarding submissions to the Policy and Practices Committee, faculty needs more guidance for completing the form for incomplete grades and requests for extensions of incompletes. Currently, the Graduate School receives an inordinate amount of these requests for extensions beyond 12 months. Many requests for extension of an incomplete are for health concerns. The amount of requests has become problematic. The concern is when a student takes the grade earned or an F or WF, it impacts the GPA. Additionally, it costs the student to retake the course. On the other hand, it is a one semester course designed to be completed in one semester. There are some programs that have courses that cannot be completed in one semester. For students supported by faculty who are requesting up to two years to complete a one semester course, this seems somewhat problematic. Dr. Mitchell requested input from the Council regarding this issue particularly in regard to what should be acceptable justifications for extensions and for how long?

Currently, Dr. Mitchell is considering submissions on a case by case basis. Whether the request is received just before exams or just after a W is received on the official grade record. A one year buffer is reasonable, however, two years seems excessive. Most of the

requests submitted are supported by the professors. There needs to be more consistency in governing these cases.

Dr. Brown commented that even if a consensus or rule is established, there are always exceptions to the rule when a student's circumstances seem valid. When judging an issue that may impact the student's employment versus a car accident, making a judgment is difficult.

Dr. Mitchell commented that it is because of that reason guidance from the Policies and Practices Committee is necessary in governing these cases. There is always a need for flexibility, but it is also problematic for one person to have that power to govern thus the need for Policies and Practices guidance.

Dr. Messias commented that she has experienced cases of students who apply for the extension and never complete the program. Her concern is that the University may be enabling a pattern for students who apply for the extension and never return to complete the program.

Dr. Mitchell stated that he researches the academic history of applicants in an effort to monitor current performance and past requests and the diligence of student in completing their program. Graduate School guidelines state once a student has amassed three incompletes, they may not continue to take additional classes until at least one of the previous incompletes have been resolved. Three or more incompletes results in a student being ineligible to enroll in further coursework. Currently, there is no process to alert when a student has amassed three or more incompletes. Therefore, it is helpful that individual programs monitor this. Ultimately, it will be the Policies and Practices Committee to make the decision. Dr. Mitchell thanked the Council for their input on the issue.

6. Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative (Brittany Walter)

Brittany Walter stated that the structure of the GSA has been re-established. There are 11 new liaisons to multiple graduate departments. The GSA newsletter has been reformatted. The current focus of the GSA is to create a forum for Graduate assistants and Teaching Assistants. The forum will be held November 6th at 6:00 PM. A venue has not yet been located, but the event will be advertised once all of the final arrangements have been made. For the first time, the GSA is collaborating with undergraduate organizations for event planning. For Graduate students, the GSA is sponsoring Start-Smart workshops.

The organization will be meeting with the Graduate School to talk about issues of concern to Graduate Students that they hope will be addressed by the Graduate School. In the Spring, the GSA plans to focus on Professional Develop workshops for Graduate Students.

7. Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee (Stacy Fritz)

The following recommendations were presented.

Recommendations: Approved

A. The minimum number of hours for a Graduate Certificate will be explicitly identified as 12 hours. Individual programs would be free to require more than 12 hours if they choose to do so.

- a. Background: Present language suggests that Graduate Certificates must be 18 hours or more. There is no CHE or SACS requirement for this limit of hours toward a certificate. There is precedent in peer and peer-aspirant institutions for 12 hours to be a reasonable expectation. There are programs currently proposing to offer graduate certificates with a target audience of prospective student's not currently enrolled—current students would also be eligible for certificates.
- B. The number of hours that are transferrable to a graduate certificate (from another institution) would be based on the following: "No more than 6 hours of credit may be transferred into graduate certificate programs of 12 to 17 hours; no more than 9 hours of credit may be transferred into graduate certificate programs of 18 or more hours."
 - a. Background: All other guidelines for transfer credits would remain in effect (no courses older than 6 years; only grades of "B" or better may be transferred). These recommendations are consistent with the spirit of USC transfer policies for masters and doctoral programs and with SACS requirements.
- C. All credit hours earned in a certificate at USC may be counted toward a graduate degree at USC. Clarification: (1) Certificates may not be earned following graduation; (2) A certificate requires a unique program of study, separate from any other degree option; (3) A certificate may be earned after completion of all courses, but, before graduation for students concurrently enrolled in a degree program.
 - a. Background: Presently there is a precedent for this in the Certificate of Graduate Studies in Higher Education. There is contradictory language elsewhere. Individual programs can restrict the number of credits from certificate programs counted toward a masters or doctoral degree.
- D. Current Graduate Bulletin Language (regarding GPA):
 - a. At the time of graduation, the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) must be at least 3.00. Additionally, the student's average on all grades recorded on the program of study for courses numbered 700 or above must be at least 3.00 and all courses listed on the program of study must be at least 3.00.

E. Proposed revision:

a. At the time of graduation, the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) must be at least 3.00 on: (a) all USC graduate coursework, (b) all courses listed on the program of study, and (c) all courses numbered 700 and above listed on the program of study.

FROM: Current Wording

Certificate of Graduate Study and Specialist Requirements

Certificate Programs

The Certificate of Graduate Study is a program of 18 27 semester hours of graduate course work. The University of South Carolina currently has 21certificate programs.

Public Health, Certificate

The certificate in public health is administered by the Arnold School of Public Health

Counselor Education, Certificate (Career Development Facilitator)

The certificate in counselor education with an concentration in career development facilitation is administered by the College of Education

Higher Education Leadership, Certificate

The certificate in higher education leadership is administered by the College of Education.

Nursing Administration, Certificate

The certificate in nursing administration is administered by the <u>College of Nursing</u> and is restricted to students who hold a master's degree in nursing or who are nearing completion of a master's degree in the USC College of Nursing.

Advanced Practice Nursing, Certificate

The certificate in advanced nursing practice is administered by the <u>College of Nursing</u> and is restricted to students who hold a master's degree in nursing or who are nearing completion of a master's degree in the USC College of Nursing.

Drug and Addiction Studies, Certificate

The certificate in drug and addiction studies is administered by the College of Social Work.

Gerontology, Certificate

The certificate in gerontology is administered by the College of Social Work.

Historical Archaeology and Cultural Resource Management, Certificate-

The certificate in historical archeology and cultural resources management is administered by the Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Visual Anthropology, Certificate

The certificate in visual anthropology is administered by the Department of Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Information Assurance and Security, Certificate-

The certificate in information assurance and security is administered by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering in the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Criminal Justice Leadership, Certificate

The certificate in criminal justice leadership is administered by the Department of <u>Criminology and Criminal</u>
<u>Justice</u>.

Health Communication, Certificate (Public Health)

Health Communication, Certificate (Library and Information Science)

Health Communication, Certificate (Journalism and Mass Communications)-

The certificate in health communication is administered by the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior in the Arnold School of Public Health; and the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and the School of Library and Information Science in the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies.

Museum Management, Certificate

The certificate museum management in is administered by the Department of <u>History</u> - (McKissiek Museum) in the <u>College of Arts and Sciences</u>.

Applied Statistics, Certificate

The certificate in applied statistics is administered by the Department of <u>Statistics</u> in the College of Arts and <u>Sciences</u>.

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Certificate

The certificate in teaching English to speakers of other languages is administered by the Linguistics Program.

Women's and Gender Studies, Certificate

The certificate in women's and gender studies is administered by the program on Women's and Gender Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Library and Information Science, Certificate-

The certificate in library information science is administered by the <u>School of Library and Information</u>
<u>Science</u> and is restricted to students who hold a Master's degree in Library and Information Science or who are nearing completion of a master's degree in the School of Library and Information Science.

Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Certificate

The certificate in psychiatric rehabilitation is administered by the School of Medicine Columbia.

Biomedical Studies, Certificate

The certificate in biomedical sciences is administered by the School of Medicine Columbia.

Music Performance, Certificate

The certificate in music performance in is administered by the School of Music.

Certificate Degree Requirements

At least 9 hours of the program course work must consist of required courses although all hours may be prescribed; at least half the total hours in the program of study must be in courses at the 700 level or above; and at least half of the 18 or more hours required for a certificate must be University of South Carolina credits. Certificate students must maintain a 3.00 cumulative graduate grade point average (GPA) on all USC courses taken for graduate credit. No more than 6 hours of grades of C may be applied toward a certificate and 9 hours of grades of C+ or lower will make the student academically ineligible for a certificate degree. There is no residency requirement, but all courses must be completed within six years of enrollment. The student must be enrolled for at least 1 credit during the term of graduation.

Certificate Program of Study

A program of study is a list of courses that satisfy the requirements for the certificate. Every degree-seeking student, including students enrolled in a certificate program, must complete a program of study (POS) form approved and signed by student's academic advisor, and approved by the graduate director of the program that administers the certificate and the dean of The Graduate School. The signed POS is sent to The Graduate School and placed in the student's file. This formal agreement serves a number of purposes that benefit both the student and the University. It causes the student and advisor to engage in early planning with a specific goal in mind; it provides information on program requirements and for the planning of course offerings; it facilitates subsequent advisement; and it protects the student in the event of unexpected curriculum or faculty changes. The student must file a completed POS form within the first 12 hours of course work. If necessary, an approved program of study can be modified with a Request for Program Adjustment (G-RPA) form.

Transfer Credit

No more than 9 semester hours of graduate credit with grades of B or better may be transferred from another institution into a graduate certificate program. Course work transferred for credit toward a Certificate of Graduate

Study must be from an accredited institution and must be no more than six years old at the time of graduation.

Course work transferred from another institution for credit toward a graduate certificate must be relevant to the program and have course content and a level of instruction equivalent to that offered by the University's own graduate programs. Approval for acceptance of transfer credit to a student's program of study must be approved and justified by the student's academic department and submitted to the dean of The Graduate School for final approval on the request for transfer of academic credit (G-RTC) form. Transfer credit is not posted to a student's official academic transcript until the term of graduation.

Transient Enrollment Privilege

A USC graduate student in a certificate program seeking transient enrollment privilege at another institution should complete and submit the Special Enrollment Request (AS-30) form available on the Office of the Registrar's website to the dean of The Graduate School for approval. Before enrolling in graduate courses at another institution, student's should contact the graduate director of the certificate program for permission to enroll and to ensure that the credits from the other institution will be approved for inclusion on the student's certificate program of study.

Revalidation of Out-of-Date Courses

Students enrolled in a certificate program may, with permission of the academic department administering the certificate, request revalidation of USC graduate courses over six years old for inclusion in the certificate program of study. Each academic program will determine whether a course is appropriate for revalidation. The Permit for Revalidation Examination (PRE) form must be completed and submitted to the dean of the Graduate School for approval prior to revalidation. Proof of payment of required fees must be submitted with the Permit for Revalidation Examination form. Complete revalidation instructions available: http://gradschool.sc.edu/DocLibrary/documents/pre.pdf.

Note: Coursework taken at other institutions may not be revalidated.

Application for Graduation and Degree Audit

All students enrolled in a certificate program must file the <u>application for degree/graduation</u> available on the website of the <u>Office of the University Registrar</u> with The Graduate School within 5 class days of the start of the fall or spring semester in which the degree is to be awarded, or within the first 10 class days of Summer Session I if the degree is to be awarded at the end of the summer (even if the student does not plan to take courses until the second summer session). Although some departments do not require students to provide the academic program with copies of the application for graduation, The Graduate School recommends that students do provide a copy to the academic program to facilitate assessment of degree requirements. Applicants are encouraged to consult with the academic program to confirm that all requirements for graduation have been met.

Applications for graduation submitted after the announced filing deadline will be accepted if supported by a letter from the graduate director of the student's program and accompanied by a late fee of \$25, which increases by \$25-every 30 days after the deadline. Deadlines are posted for each term on the official academic calendar of the University found on the website of the Office of the University Registrar. Any late application that lacks the supporting letter or late fee will be processed for the following term.

The Graduate School forwards the application for degree/graduation to the Office of the University Registrar to start the degree audit process. In <u>VIP</u>, students should view their Graduation Degree Application to confirm the accuracy

of the information submitted and to correct any errors so the diploma is printed correctly. It is also important to inspect the VIP graduation degree application information to determine if there are any holds that will prevent issue of an official transcript or mailing of the diploma. At the end of the semester, the degree program and The Graduate School both assess for degree audit whether all requirements have been completed, and then forward a recommendation to the Registrar to approve or disapprove awarding of the degree.

At the time of graduation, the student's cumulative gradepoint average (GPA) must be at least 3.00. Additionally, the student's average on all grades recorded on the program of study for courses numbered 700 or above must be at least 3.00 and all courses listed on the program of study must be at least 3.00.

Bulletin Change Form

Certificate of Graduate Study and Specialist Requirements

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The Certificate of Graduate Study is a program of a minimum of <u>12</u> semester hours of graduate course work. The University of South Carolina currently has 21certificate programs.

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Music Performance, Certificate

The certificate in music performance in is administered by the School of Music.

Play Therapy Certificate

The certificate in play therapy is administered by the College of Education.

Psychiatric Rehabilitation, Certificate

The certificate in psychiatric rehabilitation is administered by the School of Medicine - Columbia.

Public Health, Certificate

The certificate in public health is administered by the Arnold School of Public Health

Social Work with Military Members, Veterans, and Military Families

The certificate in social work with military members, veterans, and military families is administered by the College of Social Work.

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Certificate

The certificate in teaching English to speakers of other languages is administered by the <u>Linguistics</u> Program.

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work transferred for credit toward a Certificate of Graduate Study must be from an accredited institution and must be no more than six years old at the time of graduation.

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8. Report of the Committee on 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education and Special Courses (Murray Mitchell)

A listing of 500/600 Level Courses was presented to Council. No action was required on these courses. The listing was presented to the Council for informational purposes only.

Course Deletions: APPROVED

RELG 510

RELG 521

RELG 532

RELG 592

RELG 593

RELG 594

New Course Proposals

APPROVED

HRTM 591- Golf Tourism (3) [Effective Term: Fall 2014]

MUSC 505 Violin Scales and Technique (2)

[Effective Spring 2014]

JOUR 528 Cause Communications: Service Learning Experience (3)

[Effective Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposals

APPROVED

GEOG 561 Geographic Concepts for Teachers (3) Change course title to Contemporary Issues in Geography Education and change course description [Effective Fall 2014]

MSCI 627 Marine Phytoplankton (3) Cross-listed with BIOL 627 Marine Phytoplankton (3) to change pre-requisites to MSCI 102 or MSCI/BIOL 450 [Effective Fall 2014]

BIOL 627 Marine Phytoplankton (3) Cross-listed with MSCI 627 Marine Phytoplankton (3) to change pre-requisites to MSCI 102 or MSCI/BIOL 450 [Effective Fall 2014]

<u>GEOL 557 Coastal Processes</u> (3) Cross-listed with MSCI 557 Coastal Processes to change pre-requisites to (NONE) [Effective Fall 2014]

MSCI 557 Coastal Processes (3) Cross-listed with GEOL 557 Coastal Processes to change pre-requisites to (NONE) [Effective Fall 2014]

RELG 572 – Change number to 377, new title & Description.

APPROVED

9. **Fellowships and Scholarships Committee** (Wayne Carver, Excused; report delivered by Paul Solomon)

The Fellowships and Scholarships Committee is in the process of scheduling a meeting of the committee for the week of November 11, 2011, to nominate a candidate for the Innovative Application of Digital Technology in an MS Thesis Award and to discuss the spring activities of the committee.

10. Report of the Science, Math, and Related Professional Program Committee (DeAnne Messias)

Department of Nursing

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

NURS J781 Applied Technology in Health Care (3) Add NURS 805 to the list of prerequisites for this course.

[Effective Term: Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

NURS J808 Advanced Nursing in Population Health (2) Add NURS 737, NURS 805, and NURS 734 to the list of pre-requisites for this course.

[Effective Term: Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

NURS 897 DNP Project Preparation and Residency (1-3) Change Course Title to DNP Clinical Dissertation and Residency.

[Effective Term: Fall 2014]

11. Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee (J. Daniel Jenkins)

Business

Academic Program Action

APPROVED

APA Dual Degree, Master of International Business (MIB) (35) Addition of Dual Degree Program between USC and Tec de Monterrey [Effective Fall 2014]

Academic Program Action

TABLED

<u>APA Graduate Certificate in Human Resources</u> (12) Human Resources Certificate Program

[Effective Summer I 2014]

Academic Program Action

TABLED

APA Graduate Certificate in Financial and Resource Management (12) Financial and Resource Management Certificate Program

[Effective Summer I 2014]

Academic Program Action

TABLED

APA Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics (12) Business Analytics Certificate Program

[Effective Summer I 2014]

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

MGMT 770 Organizational Behavior (3) Change course title to Competing through People

[Effective Fall 2014]

Academic Program Action

TABLED

<u>APA Executive International Master of Business Administration</u> (48) Course updates. [Effective Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

DMSB 710 Financial Accounting in the Global Environment (2) Change credit hours to 2-3 variable

[Effective Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

<u>DMSB 712 Decision Analysis</u> (3) Change course title to Quantitative Methods in Business and change credit hours to 2-3 variable [Effective Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

TABLED

DMSB 717 Management Accounting in the Global Environment (2) Change credit hours to 2-3 variable [Effective Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

<u>DMSB 718 Operations Management</u> (3) Change course title to Global Supply Chain and Operations Management [Effective Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

APPROVED

DMSB 725 Global Business Issues (1) Change credit hours to 3 fixed

[Effective Fall 2014]

Department of English, Language & Literature

Course Change Proposal

TABLED

SPCH 796 Special Projects-Independent Study (1-3) Change course title to Independent Study in Speech Communication, Rhetoric, and Performance and change course description
[Effective Fall 2014]

Course Change Proposal

TABLED

<u>SPCH 797 Special Projects</u> (1-3) Change course title to Speech Communication, Rhetoric, and Performance and change course description [Effective Fall 2014]

Department of Psychology

Course Change Proposals

APPROVED

PSYC 827 Applied Individual and Couples Psychotherapy (3) Change grading system to Pass/Fail

[Effective Fall 2014]

PSYC 835 Advanced Psychotherapy Practicum (1-3) Change grading system to Pass/Fail

TABLED

[Effective Fall 2014]

School of Journalism and Mass Communications

New Course Proposal

RETURNED TO DEPT.

JOUR 789 Selected Readings and Research (1-3) Change grading system to Pass/Fail [Effective Spring 2014]

12. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (Erik Drasgow)

Dr. Drasgow inquired as to the status of the form being drafted to provide direction to students who may have an issue that warrants investigation and ruling by the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee.

Dr. Mitchell responded that the form is still being drafted and will be reviewed by this committee before being proposed for Council approval.

13. Other Committee Reports

No report

14. Old Business

No report

15. New Business

No report

16. Good of the Order

No report

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

Murray Mitchell, Secretary

cc:

President Harris Pastides
Vice Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies Lacy Ford
Provost Michael Amiridis
Deans
Department Chairs
Graduate Directors
Aaron Marterer, University Registrar
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