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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, November 13, 2014

Graduate Council, University of Northern Iowa.

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #1040

November 13, 2014

Present: Beall, Calderon, Caswell, Chatham-Carpenter, Clayton, Coon, Deemer, Fontana, Gacke, Kucuksari, Nesbit, Noh, Pohl, Teske

Guests: Pam MacKay, Susie Schwieger, Joy Thorson

Absent: Power, Stokes

The meeting was called to order by Chair Clayton. She thanked everyone for attending and thanked Kucuksari and Teske for their willingness to serve on the Council; introductions followed.

Motion by Beall to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2014 meeting; seconded by Pohl. Motion approved.

Graduate College Reports

Chatham-Carpenter reported that during yesterday's meeting of the Graduate Student Advisory Board (GSAB) a productive discussion took place regarding increasing student participation in the 8th Annual Graduate Student Symposium. It was discovered that GSAB members did not realize that student presenters need to have a faculty mentor who is associated with their project. Past guidelines stated that a faculty member was needed, which could be interpreted as the advisor who helps with the students' classes and not necessarily the faculty mentor for the project. Guidelines will be revised to make this point clearer. It was also pointed out that everyone who registers for the Symposium participates in some way. Having some type of competition between departments for the largest number of participants was suggested. Related to the creative performances, Chatham-Carpenter stated that the presentation needs to be associated with a student's graduate program.

Related to the Graduate College imaging project, Coon reported that most of the forms will eventually be an electronic version through OnBase. Some of the forms that will become electronic include the Report of Comprehensive Examination Approval, Report of Non-Thesis Paper Approval, as well as Thesis and Dissertation Committee Approval Forms. The goal is to eventually have all Graduate College forms handled electronically.

Schwieger reported that the November 5, Beyond Your Bachelor's Graduate Programs Open House co-sponsored by Continuing and Distance Education went well, with approximately 50 attendees.

She will follow up with those who had planned to attend, but could not make it, to be sure to answer any questions they might have.

In the Graduate Student Advisory Board, new this year are three sub-committees, each headed up by one of the Graduate College's Graduate Assistants. The three sub-

committees are Recruitment and Retention Sub-committee (Abbie Gacke), Social Media Sub-committee (Scotti Hagensick), Symposium Sub-committee (RaeAnn Swanson). Although some departments currently organize campus visits, the Recruitment and Retention Sub-committee will be exploring the possibility of developing a strong program for potential graduate students to make a campus visit. The Social Media Sub-committee is organizing a Face Book Photo Contest. On the evening of Monday, November 17, there will be a Graduate College Social Mixer involving both graduate students and graduate faculty. There will be a short video presentation that will serve as a kick-off for the 8th Annual Graduate Student Symposium. The video compiled by Scotti Hagensick, will feature student presenters, past judges and student award winners.

Chair of Graduate Faculty Report

Beall reported that the fourth in a series of five fall Brown Bag Lectures took place yesterday, with Audrey Rule's lecture, "*Invention Through Form and Function Analogy*." Regarding Faculty Senate, Beall said there was an issue raised as to what extra is required of the graduate students in 4000/5000 level classes. As a result of further discussions and a question about how this situation is being addressed, The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning will be co-sponsoring a panel discussion on this topic in early February. Beall encouraged Council members to share anything they would like to see or if they know anyone who is doing interesting and creative work to meet graduate student needs. She said it is also important to make sure that policies are out there so that people are aware. Out of the discussion Beall also hopes to have a list of resources that will be widely disseminated among faculty who teach these courses.

Related to the TOEFL/IELTS policies approved by the Council, Clayton reported that the information had been presented by Chatham-Carpenter and Coon at recent Graduate Coordinator meetings. Response to the changes was generally positive. Clayton passed along that the Coordinators expressed their thanks to the Council members for their hard work on creating a policy that was thoughtful and clear.

New Business

Curriculum Packet for Master of Public Policy Program

Coon summarized Master of Public Policy (MPP) background information that was provided by Donna Hoffman at yesterday's GCCC meeting. This included the fact that the MPP was previously under the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, but not under one specific department. With the retirement of the MPP director, it was decided that for the sustainability of the program, it would need to be under the auspices of a particular department. The dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences decided to move the program to the Department of Political Science. Political Science faculty brought together a committee of departmental graduate faculty, as well faculty

from various other departments, to work on a curriculum proposal over the course of approximately two years. There is currently a teach-out of the students under the previous MPP program. Coon added that the clientele, curriculum and delivery mode of the program will change with the new program. The goal is to admit a cohort under the new program in Fall of 2015. This proposal has the support from the college senate and dean.

Related to the curriculum packet, Coon gave an overview of dropped/added courses, new courses, course changes, as well as language changes. She noted that a Graduate Certificate in Public Administration would also be offered. In response to a question as to whether or not a student can earn both a certificate and a degree, Coon responded that there are no restrictions against courses double-counting for both a degree and a certificate. It was noted that the Department of Economics had been consulted about the proposal and there had been no reply to date. Coon added that there were Economics graduate faculty on the committee and that the Economics department did not express an interest in a distance mode of delivery. She also noted that lack of response regarding a consultation is implied consent.

Additional discussion took place regarding consultations related to the MPP curriculum packet. As a result, the Council agreed that consultations need to take place with the College of Education, Educational Psychology & Foundations; Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology, and the School of HPELS regarding the new course PUBPOL 6204 Program Evaluation in Public Policy. The Council also requested additional information related to the explanation of why three new and/or revised courses (POL AMER 3172/5172; PUBPOL 6201 and 6204) are appropriate for graduate students. Coon thought the MPP curriculum packet would be on the agenda for the December 8, Faculty Senate meeting. Consultations would need to be done and verified by the Senate before being approved.

Motion by Pohl for conditional approval of the Master of Public Policy curriculum packet upon the completion of the consultations and improvement of the course justifications; seconded by Beall. Motion approved.

Clayton noted that this decision would be conveyed to both the Department of Political Science and the University Faculty Senate. Coon will contact the CSBS Dean and the college senate.

The meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in Lang 115.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Nedrow
Secretary