

11-12-2020

University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, November 12, 2020

Graduate Council, University of Northern Iowa.

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Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2020

3:30-4:30 p.m. (Zoom)

Present: Gabi Olivares, Joan Bessman Taylor, Amy Igou, Jennifer Waldron, Darcie Davis-Gate, Karen Tracey, Kathryn Wohlpart, Heather Gallivan, Nicholas Schwab, Tabitha Decker, Natalie Ita, Gayle Pohl, Angela Pratesi

1. Welcome: Grad Council Chair Joan Bessman Taylor
 - a. Approval of Minutes for prior meeting
2. Graduate College Reports/Announcements:
 - a. Jennifer Waldron, Graduate College Dean:
 - A decision was made against using the credit/no credit option
 - A data analyst and graduate funding position has been opened within the Graduate College and will be open for two weeks
 - Winter writing workshop will occur over break (for students who are looking to improve their writing skills)
 - b. Gabriela Olivares, Associate Dean
 - Graduate College curriculum committee is now closed
 - Psychology program has officially deleted independent study from the catalog
 - c. Darcie Davis-Gage, Chair of Graduate Faculty
 - Commented on the continuation of discussion on workshops for the spring semester. Due to fatigue, workshops planning will continue on in the nature of self-care for faculty
3. Old Business
 - a. Proposal Academic Renewal Policy:
Gabi Olivares and Amy Igou.
 - Dr. Olivares stated a draft has been submitted (attached in email from Rubina)
 - Programmatic probation and suspension will remain within each department's discretion
 - A vote was taken and the academic renewal policy was approved
 - b. Proposed changes to Thesis/Dissertation policies: (attached in the email from Rubina)
Kat Wohlpart
 - There have been some basic questions (e.g. how often do we foresee students not completing at the point of submission?). Kat responded one to two rounds of review with the committee is now more standard as opposed to the previous need of four to five reviews.
 - Nicholas Schwab expressed concern in the specific language of committees being required to provide "written agreement" during the summertime. The in-writing verbiage seems to be problematic; faculty

may be difficult to connect with over the summer. Kat stated openness to suggestions. Potentially the chair can convene a meeting or an electronic signature may mitigate the potential issue.

- A language change suggestion was provided and thought it could be appropriate
 - Amended section under "Extended (June) Session":
 - The committee will need to submit their agreement to serve on the committee over the Extended Summer (June) Term through final approval to the Graduate College. Students will not be eligible for completion in the summer term without this agreement.
 - The agreement must be received from committee members by the first day of the university June session.
- The proposed thesis/dissertation policies were approved with vote

4. Adjournment

- a. Work that is not time sensitive will be put on hold during break until resumption in full occurs.
- b. Thanks and appreciation for all were extended by leadership.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Ita

Graduate Council Secretary

Next scheduled meeting: February 11, 2021