

2-25-2021

## University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, February 25, 2021

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## Graduate Council Minutes

February 25, 2021

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

Present: Igou, Mann, Tracey, Coon, Schwab, Davis-Gage, Taylor, Decker, Petersen

Ex-Officio: Waldron, Olivares

Absent: Gallivan, Pratesi, Pohl

- a. Welcome: Grad Council Chair - Joan Bessman Taylor
  - a. No agenda set; however, conversation will focus on old business
  - b. Minutes from prior meeting – not sent, will be approved at the next Grad Council meeting
- b. Graduate College Reports/Announcements:
  - a. Jennifer Waldron, Graduate College Dean
    - i. Academic calendar proposals for 2022 year will include winter term. Waiting for approval by BOR
    - ii. HLC
    - iii. Funding Allocations to department sent
  - b. Gabriela Olivares, Associate Dean
    - i. Awards committee
      1. Waiting for Lubker award to be determined
      2. Names will be announced in future
      3. Thank you to all committee members
    - ii. Historically, 2 Grad Council members serve as the university-at-large position
  - c. Darcie Davis-Gage, Chair of Graduate Faculty
    - i. Jonathan – CETL, presentation “tray of resistance” focus on grad faculty
      - ii. Still working out the date
    - iii. Provost search
    - iv. Not much mentioned about graduate education
    - v. Need to make sure voices are heard move forward
- c. Old Business
  - a. Combined degree programs
    - i. No taking a vote today, but will be moving. Faculty initiative with one department who wants to move forward with this. – (Taylor)
    - ii. C&I coordinators – that sounds like a good idea – questions about process – what happens when you start it and don’t finish it - (Taylor)
    - iii. Feedback: generally in favor (Pohl via email)
      - i. how does it get processed
      - ii. application process, when apply for it, GAs or will they be awarded, will GAs be reserved for 2 year students,
    - iv. Shared it with programs with grad program, and then more broadly (Coon)
      - i. general endorsement, as long as it is a trend if higher ed

- ii. Confusion – current policy allows for grad credit as senior, but those 12 credits don't double count
      - 1. Should credit double count for all students, regardless of combined degree option?
    - iii. don't want policy to be so restrictive that it isn't useful
      - 1. Student might be wanting double count without a combined degree
  - v. start by focusing on the programs that want to do it and see what happens – don't want to give the impression that you can double count credit (Davis-Gage)
    - i. MATR has already thought this through
    - ii. I would rather err on specific programs to the 3-2
    - iii. equity options does not mean equal
  - vi. we have to change a major policy at university; won't be long before some other student gets to double count (Coon)
  - vii. centering on the path we need to open, and then determine if we need to look at and then widen the approach. Need to keep mind open (Olivares)
  - viii. shorter programs should not lead to combined degree programs (Coon)
  - ix. thinking appropriate to revise such policy language (Petersen)
    - i. MATRs proposal is rigorous and makes senses
    - ii. grad education – how move forward.
    - iii. may create additional spaces for grad education on campus.
  - x. MATR, good model, thoughtfulness with curriculum, helped me think about other pitfalls; (Davis-Gage)
    - i. need to think about what to do – very important piece is to be deliberative.
    - ii. We are on the trail end of opening up combined degree programs – we need to do it and do it well.
  - xi. generally supportive; sense more positive than negatives; one size fits all is not where we need to go – be difficult (Schwab)
  - xii. not a chance to discuss; meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Mann)
  - xiii. everything was positive; talked with people informally (Tracey)
- b. Next step
  - i. Send email for feedback for grad coordinators and grad dept heads (Taylor)

Meeting adjourned @4:31