Graduate Programs Committee

**Minutes of December 12, 2019**

LRC 224

3:00 - 5:30 PM

Present: M. Romero, F. McCormick, M. Strahan, K. Teeter, M. Jennings, M. Moore, M. Klett, K. Smith, L. Eckert, L. Larkin

Absent: B. Beavers

Guests: Daniel Cullen, Associate Director of Accreditation and Assessment, Stacy Boyer Davis, College of Business, Carol Johnson, Dean of the College of Business

1. Approval of Agenda – Strahan/Teeter- **Approved**
2. Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2019 - Jennings/Klett– **Approved with edits.**
3. Dean’s Report (Lisa Eckert, Dean of Graduate Education and Research) – Lisa Eckert reported the following: (1) An articulation agreement between NMU and Finlandia University is being developed for undergraduate Finlandia students in the social work program who have not completed their BSW to begin taking classes in the MSW program at NMU. Some of the coursework taken at NMU will count towards their undergraduate degree requirements at Finlandia. There is also interest in establishing similar articulation agreements with other programs at NMU, including athletic training, psychology, and the coaching major. The Dean of Arts and Sciences at Bay College also has expressed interest in similar types of arrangements. (2) Lisa attended the Council of Graduate Schools Annual Convention in early December. Overall themes at the convention included innovative programs and mentoring for new faculty and graduate students. (3) The 3-minute Thesis Competition will take place on February 18th. National winners from this competition were present at the Council of Graduate Schools Convention. (4) Lisa will be reviewing admission policies to ensure that they are fair and adhere to standards established by the Michigan Universities Self-Insurance Corporation (MUSIC). (5) Lisa was present at the Board of Trustees meeting on December 12th. The Trustees are interested in learning more about current and future graduate programs at NMU.
4. Graduate Student Representative Report (Bethany Beavers) – No report. Absent from meeting.
5. Chair’s Report (Frankie McCormick) – (1) Frankie reported that the Master of Social Work program revisions and the Computer Science program proposal passed the first reading at the Academic Senate. Questions were raised about staffing when the Computer Science program was reviewed.
6. GPC Business
   1. Curricular items (Members 2019-2020: entire GPC membership)
      1. HLC Guidelines/Requirements for Ph.D. Programs – Dr. Daniel Cullen, Associate Director for Accreditation and Assessment provided information about the process for obtaining approval to begin PhD programs through the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Any new PhD or doctoral programs require HLC approval and the first new program (and sometimes additional programs) require an on-site visit from HLC.
7. Psychological Sciences: Revisions to the M.S. in Psychology - – Klett/Strahan – **Approved** – A proposal to revise the Master of Science in Psychology program was reviewed. The curriculum was revised to better align with the program mission. The proposal was initially reviewed by GPC on November 14th with a request for revisions. Faculty met with subcommittee members, M. Moore, K. Smith, and F. McCormick on December 9to review the updated proposal. Kim Rotundo approved a departmental request to change course prefixes in the graduate program (PY) to match course prefix in the undergraduate program (PSY). Questions were raised about implications/ramifications associated with changing course prefixes. The proposal will move to the Senate.
8. Business 4+1 MBA with an Accounting Emphasis – **Approved with amendments -** Strahan/Jennings – A proposal was reviewed for a Business 4+1 MBA program with an accounting emphasis. The Accounting/Corporate Finance major underwent transformation in response to Strategic Resource Allocation (SRA) recommendations. The following revisions were requested by GPC:
   * + - Include the Capstone Portfolio course under the listing of courses (item #11 in the proposal) and submit a new course form for the item.
       - In the listing of courses (item #11 in the proposal) change the title of Accounting Courses to Accounting Core Requirements and place this category above the elective courses.
       - Include a URL link in the proposal that can be used to identify course equivalencies
       - Remove the reference, MastersinAccounting.com from the proposal.
       - Submit a new course form for BUS 572.
       - Submit a statement from L. Eckert (Dean of Graduate Education and Research) that provides standardized language used to waive the minimum GPA requirement of 3.0 and allow a minimum GPA requirement of 2.75.
       - Provide a listing of all applicable elective courses on the bulletin copy in the proposal.
       - Provide a statement within the proposal that addresses the qualifications of faculty teaching in the undergraduate program and include information about accreditation requirements relating to qualified faculty.
       - Under Admission Requirements, change the language to state, “GMAT or GRE if required” and include a link that identifies under which conditions these tests are required.
       - Minor edits – course names and numbers.

The proposal will move to the Senate after the revisions are complete.

* 1. Faculty (Members 2019 - 2020: M. Klett, M. Strahan, M. Romero, M. Moore)

Graduate Faculty Applications – Strahan/Klett **Approved** – GPC approved one application for graduate faculty status.

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| **Last Name** | **First Name** | **Department** | **Level** | **Term** | **Begins** | **Expires** |
| Cove | Michael | Biology | 1 | 3 | 8/1/2019 | 8/1/2022 |
| Cullen | Daniel | Admin.  Political Science | 1 | 3 | 8/1/2019 | 8/1/2022 |

1. Policy Items (Members 2019 – 2020: F. McCormick, K. Smith, M. Jennings, L. Larkin)

400 Level Course Review – **Tabled**

Adjourned 5:20 pm – Strahan/Klett

Respectfully submitted by

Melissa Romero, GPC Secretary