

Graduate Programs Committee  
**Minutes of October 7, 2021**  
Harden Hall, Room #224  
3:00 - 5:00 PM

Present: M. Romero, M. Jennings, M. Klett, K. Teeter, D. Rowe, M. Moore, K. Smith, M. Strahan, S. Carlson

Absent: L. Eckert

Guests: None

1. Approval of Agenda – Strahan/Carlson- **Approved**
2. Approval of Minutes – September 9, 2021 – Rowe/Smith – **Approved with edits**
3. Dean’s Report (Lisa Eckert, Dean of Graduate Education and Research) – No report (absent).
4. Chair’s Report (Matt Jennings) – Matt provided the following updates:
  - a. The MS in Administration of Outdoor Recreation and Nature Based Tourism proposal passed through the first and second reading at the Senate.
  - b. Matt received two new program proposals and six program modification proposals. GPC will divide into subcommittees to review those proposals.
  - c. Matt invited GPC members to attend the October 12 Academic Senate meeting. Steve VandenAvond and Brad Hamel will be present to discuss the relationship between Academic Affairs and Global Campus.
5. Guest Speaker: Dan Cullen, Director of Institutional Accreditation and Assessment –
  - a. Dan reported that as a result of changes to the Federal Code, NMU needs to notify the HLC within 30 days whenever any academic programs undergo a substantive change. Specific situations in which notification needs to occur include:
    - i. Curriculum modification by 25% or more (change in any of the following: competencies, intended learning outcomes, clinicals);
    - ii. Increases or decreases in credit hours by 25% or more;
    - iii. Addition of a mode of delivery;
    - iv. Creation of a customized pathway (e.g., adding program-specific credit by prior learning assessment or PLA, for a particular category of students).These changes also apply to programmatic accreditors. Any department with programmatic accreditation should check with the organization on method of

reporting. These changes are cumulative from February 3, 2021 through 2026-27. GPCs policy subcommittee will work to define curriculum modifications of 25% or more. Dan Cullen has an upcoming meeting where these requirements will be discussed – he may return to GPC with additional information obtained at the meeting.

- b. Dan discussed HLC requirements for rigor. NMU is expected to provide rigorous academic offerings that are appropriate for higher education. HLCs expectations for rigor include:
  - i. Courses and programs are current and require levels of student performance appropriate to the credential awarded.
  - ii. The institution articulates and differentiates learning goals for its undergraduate, graduate, post-baccalaureate, post-graduate and certificate programs.
  - iii. The institution’s program quality and learning goals are consistent across all modes of delivery and all locations (on the main campus, at additional locations, by distance delivery, as dual credit, through contractual or consortial arrangements, or any other modality).

GPC members and the policy subcommittee will discuss ways in which these items can be addressed. Additional criteria may need to be met by programs when submitting program proposals.

#### 6. GPC Business

- a. Graduate Faculty Items (M. Strahan, Chair; K. Teeter, M. Klett)
  - i. Graduate Faculty Status Applications – Strahan/Klett – **Approved** – 3 applications for graduate faculty status were approved.

Last Name	First Name	Department	Level	Term	Begins	Expires
Ewalt	Josh	CAMS	2	2	8/1/2021	8/1/2023
Toegel	Cory	Psych	3		8/1/2021	
Toegel	Forrest	Psych	2	3	8/1/2021	8/1/2024

- b. Curricular items
  - i. Distribution of Materials – The following subcommittees were formed to review the proposals listed below:

**New Programs:**

- Applied Sports Psychology and Positive Coaching: Matt Jennings, Mike Strahan, Sarah Carlson
- Math 4+1 Program: Matt Jennings, Mitch Klett, Melissa Romero

**Program Revisions:**

- Psychology: ABA program change from Master's degree to graduate level certificate program: Mike Strahan, Maggy Moore, Kristen Smith
  - English MA Concentration Literature and the Environment: Matt Jennings, Mitch Klett, Dan Rowe
  - SELPS Early Childhood Revision: Mike Strahan, Kate Teeter, Sarah Carlson
  - Biology BI 423: course moving from 400 level to 400/500 level: Matt Jennings, Dan Rowe, Mitch Klett
- c. Policy (M. Jennings, Chair; K. Smith, and D. Rowe) – No items.

Adjourned 4:14 pm – Moore/Smith

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Romero, GPC Secretary