

Graduate Programs Committee
Minutes of March 11, 2021
ZOOM Meeting
3:00 - 5:00 PM

Present: M. Romero, F. McCormick, M. Jennings, M. Klett, K. Teeter, D. Rowe, M. Moore, K. Smith,

Absent: L. Larkin, L. Eckert, Josie Campos (student representative)

Guest: Janelle Taylor, Coordinator of Graduate Student and Research Affairs

1. Approval of Agenda – Rowe/Smith- **Approved**
2. Approval of Minutes – February 25, 2021 – Rowe/Teeter - **Approved**
3. Dean’s Report (Lisa Eckert, Dean of Graduate Education and Research) – No report (absent)
4. Chair’s Report (Frankie McCormick) – Frankie reported the following:
 - a. Frankie reported that one faculty member who will be serving on GPC next year is requesting attendance at the April meeting. GPC members approved the request.
 - b. PhD programs:
 - i. All three PhD programs were withdrawn for the remainder of this academic year. The announcement was made by Provost Schuiling at the March 9 Academic Senate Meeting. Reasons for withdrawal included budgetary concerns, faculty compensation and load issues, and other concerns. Provost Schuiling indicated that work on the proposals will continue beginning this summer and revised proposals may be reconsidered next academic year.
 1. Frankie will send a list of responses to questions that were raised by the Senate Executive Committee when they reviewed the proposals at their most recent meeting; a meeting which took place prior to Provost Schuiling’s announcement. The responses to the questions include those from GPC and responses from the School of Health and Human Performance (Kinesiology and Exercise Science) and from Graduate Studies and Research and the School of Education, Leadership, and Public Service (Rural Leadership). This information provides a record of GPC’s due diligence in its review of PhD proposals and may be useful to future committees

or individuals involved in the development of such programs.
Frankie will also send a memo to EPC.

2. Frankie will ask Normal Froelich, chair of Academic Senate if she and Matt Jennings can attend an Executive Senate meeting to ask questions and identify what their needs are and what they are looking for from GPC when reviewing PhD programs.
 3. GPC is interested in improving current proposal review processes to work more efficiently and effectively in the interest of future individuals and groups involved in the review processes of new programs at any level.
- c. Proposals in subcommittee review:
- i. MBA – Business Analytics track: the subcommittee met with representatives from the College of Business on February 24 and provided suggestions for program proposal revisions. The updated proposal was reviewed by the subcommittee. There are additional suggestions for revisions, which will be discussed at the March 25 meeting. Business faculty will be in attendance to answer questions.
 - ii. The Master of Science in Outdoor Recreation (ORLM) proposal is currently under subcommittee review and will be discussed at the March 25 meeting.
- d. The following passed the first reading at Senate:
- i. MBA program changes
 - ii. Psychological Sciences – PSY 592 course changes
- e. The following passed the second reading at Senate:
- i. School of Clinical Sciences:
 1. New certificate program: Clinical Molecular Diagnostics Graduate Certificate
 2. Program revisions: Masters of Clinical Molecular Genetics
 3. New course: CLS 510 Core Concepts in Clinical Sciences
 4. Course changes:
 - CLS 543 Molecular Diagnostics in Identity Testing
 - CLS 580 Project in Molecular Genetics
 - CLS 590 Thesis in Clinical Molecular Genetics
 - ii. Biology
 1. Program revisions: Masters of Science in Biology
 - iii. Business:
 1. New course: BUS 535 Sustainable Business strategy
 - iv. Center for Native American Studies

1. Course change: NAS 488 Native American Community Engagement
 - v. English
 1. Program revisions: Masters of Fine Arts in Creative Writing
 - vi. Social Work
 1. Program revisions - Masters of Social Work
 2. Course changes:
 - SW 511 Clinical Methods with Individuals
 - SW 512 Clinical Methods with Couples, Families and Groups
 - SW 612 Advanced Clinical Methods with Families and Groups
5. Student Representative Report (Josie Campos) – No report (absent)
6. GPC Business
- a. Graduate Faculty Applications (K. Smith, K. Teeter, M. Moore, M. Klett) – Moore/Klett – **Approved** – three applications for graduate faculty status were approved.

Last Name	First Name	Department	Level	Term	Begins	Expires
Bruttomesso	Jenna	SHHP	1	2	8/1/2020	8/1/2022
Moerske	Ashley	Biology	1	3	8/1/2020	8/1/2023
Roseman	Ed	Biology	1	3	8/1/2020	8/1/2023

- i. Graduate Faculty Status – Request for Level Two Status – GPC was asked to grant an exception to policy by providing level 2 status to a contingent faculty member who does not have a terminal degree. The faculty member was granted level 1 status at the January 11 GPC meeting but is requesting level 2 to chair a thesis committee. After a discussion, the request for exception to policy was denied.
- b. Curricular items
 - i. Excellence in Education Grant Awards – Klett/Jennings – **Approved** – Thirty-three (33) applications were reviewed and ranked by the committee. Janelle Taylor was available to answer questions. Twenty-eight students received funding. Four additional students will receive funding pending submission of missing application materials and one

application was denied funding due to the timeline for expenditures in the proposal.

ii. Rural Leadership PhD Courses – A request was received from Joe Lubig in the School of Education for GPC to review and approve the Rural Leadership PhD courses. Rationale: if the courses are approved, they could be taken at NMU and offered to students at other institutions. Frankie will contact Joe Lubig and request a written proposal, a letter of support from the graduate Dean, and a memo from faculty at other institutions where the courses are expected to be offered. GPC will consider the request once the materials have been received.

c. Policy (M. Jennings, Chair; L. Eckert, L. Larkin, and D. Rowe)

i. PhD Program Policy – Matt Jennings shared a document that the policy subcommittee has been working on with L. Eckert that includes an overview of NMU's PhD General Requirements. The document was reviewed and suggestions provided for revisions. The subcommittee will continue their work and it will move for a vote at the April 8 meeting. If passed, Frankie will provide this as an informational document to the Academic Senate.

Adjourned 5:11 pm – Klett/Jennings

Respectfully submitted by
Melissa Romero, GPC Secretary