

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Graduate School

Graduate Council Minutes
Academic Year 2020
Meeting No. 2

February 21, 2020
2:00 P.M.
SS 201

Members Present: Ellise Adams, Joseph Conway, Paul Collopy, Eric Fong, Phillip Ligrani, Wafa Hakim Orman, Lenora Smith, Janet Waller, Tingting Que, Robert Griffin, Ramzan Aygun, Yeqing Bao

Members Absent: Karen Frith, Jason O'Brien, David Berkowitz, Michael Anderson, Angela Balla, Dylan Baun, David Moore

Voting Members: Joe Conway, Dylan Baun, Eric Fong, Paul Collopy, Phillip Ligrani, Michael Anderson, Donsheng Wu, Ramazan Aygun, Robert Griffin, Ellise Adams, Lenora Smith, Karen Frith

Proxy: Ellise Adams for Karen Frith, Joseph Conway for Angela Balla, Dylan Baun, Ramzan Aygun for DongshengWu,

Non-Voting Members: Graduate School- David Berkowitz, Yeqing Bao, Robin Graves
Registrar- Janet Waller
Library-David Moore
College of Business-Wafa Orman

Visitors Present: Jeffrey Weimer (Chemistry)

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 by Dr. Bao.
The January minutes were approved and seconded.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Jeffrey Weimer Petition

Dr. Weimer has concerns about student's having to take 3 credit hours during their dissertation. He suggested the hours be reduced to 1 hour instead of 3 or completely removed. He feels it should be at the discretion of the faculty. It was explained that the credit hours are required to ensure that the students complete their degree under thesis committee's supervision in a timely manner. There is no support for Dr. Weimer's proposal among the graduate council members.

2. Faculty Senate proposed change

It was explained that the Faculty Senate would like to have 1) graduate council members be elected by faculty senate; and 2) graduate program initiation, merger, and deletion be approved by the faculty senate curriculum committee. The Grad Council is not in agreement with that change. They would like to continue as an independent committee. A motion was made by Dr. Phil Ligrani and seconded by Dr. Paul Collopy to oppose the Senate Faculty suggestion. The Motion passed unanimously by the graduate council. Graduate council members are also asked to talk to and explain the graduate council's positions to faculty senators of their respective colleges.

3. Assets

Dr. Bao spoke about the Alabama Asset program. He explained the concept of stacking courses throughout the state and the courses counting towards a degree. He mentioned that classes would be transferable. Dr. Bao mentioned that UAB and Tuscaloosa have already started to propose asset programs. It was suggested that questions in regard to the Asset topic be sent to Robin Graves. Dr. Bao will gather the questions and have answers at the next meeting in March.

4. Extra Topic

Janet Waller began a discussion about eliminating course validation after six years, for the Master's degree. The only programs that require course validation are Master's courses. All other degrees do not have a course validation requirement. The faculty discussed the issue and concluded that there is not a consistent standard for the validation concept. A motion was made by Phillip Ligrani and seconded by Eric Fong to eliminate the course validation requirement and only require students at the Master's level to complete their degree within 10 years. The motion passed unanimously. The new process will become effective in fall 2020.

5. Tentative date for next meeting

Due to the next meeting being held around spring break, it was suggested that the committee meet on Thursday, March 26 at 2:00. The members agreed to meet on that date and time.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 P.M.