2011-2012 Faculty Committee on Graduate Education, Continuing Education, and Special Programs

Minutes

Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 10:45am
CRAIG Room 108

Committee members (present at meeting): David Desplaces (Marketing and Supply Chain Management), Merissa Ferrara (Communication), Brooke van Horn (Chemistry), and Silvia Rodríguez Sabater, Chair (Hispanic Studies).

Ex-Officio: Amy McCandless (Dean of the Graduate School) and Cathy Boyd (Registrar).

Attending Meetings: Julie Dahl (Student Records Data Manager), Lynne Ford (Associate Provost for Curriculum and Academic Administration), Dave Owens (Associate Dean of the Graduate School), and Regina Semko (Assistant to the Dean).

Guest: Vince Benigni (Communication).

I. Call to order.

II. Approval of minutes (January 26, 2012).

III. Graduate Program in Communication:

A. Change/Delete Graduate Program Proposal

The meeting began with an overview of the Intro to Graduate Studies Course and an oral description of Program Change overview. Vince Benigni spoke about a need for additional experience for students in secondary research and database research and the inclusion of both qualitative and quantitative methodologies within the curriculum, concepts to be covered by the new courses (COMM 514 and COMM 680) brought to the committee. He brought up the curricular need for including the concept of what it is to be a graduate student in communication for students transitioning into the program (role of COMM 500). This course, COMM 500, was described as a gateway to methodology course.

Also, the special topics seminar course (COMM 580) was discussed as needing a title change to match what is covered by the course (presently titled "Seminar in Organizational Communication" and seeking to be renamed, more broadly, "Seminar in Communication". There was a brief discussion about needing a Graduate Course Proposal Form that illustrated and made official the course change through the "Change Title" option on the form. It was concluded that a form was needed. The committee agreed to the change in good faith that the required form will submitted prior to forwarding to the materials to the Graduate Council.

Members of the committee voted on program change proposal, pending the course change form for title and it was approved at 10:59 am.
B. New course proposals:

- COMM 500: Introduction to Graduate Studies (proposed title)
- COMM 514: Social Media
- COMM 680: Seminar in Rhetoric

COMM 500 (No course title on initial form) - Silvia commented that there needs to be a title on the form. There was discussion about wanting the course to be open to other programs and therefore, a desire to keep the title broad. The discussion concluded with the decision to use the title "Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication" (with the emphasis on communication since it is within the Master's in Communication program) with the necessary changes to the forms and the syllabus. The proposal was approved unanimously by the committee with the changes to included the title as "Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication".

COMM 514 (Social Media) - This proposal was approved with little discussion.

COMM 680 (Seminar in Rhetoric) - The course was described as an "issue oriented" and thematic-based course using special topics. It was also regarded as providing a current, more advanced option for students and deemed an important addition to the curriculum. The course has prerequisites at the 500 level (specifically, COMM 500 and COMM 510 or permission of the instructor). After little discussion the committee voted and approved the proposal at 11:06 AM.

IV. For the good of the order.
Nothing additional was noted.

V. Adjournment.
The meeting ended at 11:07 AM.

Note:
Proposals approved via email on March 1, 2012:

- COMM 580 change of name proposal (old business from last committee meeting)
- M.Ed in Languages and Language Education (Termination of French track)

These two proposals were approved via email so that the Graduate Council and the Senate would be able to review them before the conclusion of the semester. These changes need to be into effect in the Fall, so students are not mislead as to the content of COMM 580 and the possibility of a French track in the M.Ed in Languages and Language Education.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday March 29, 2012 at 10:45am