

Graduate Programs Council - End of Year Report 2015 – 2016 Academic Year

Members

Arts & Communication	Kyung-Hyan (Angie) Yoo
Business	Rajiv Kashyap (Co-chair)
Education	Michelle Hinkle
Humanities & Social Sciences	Deniz Yucel
Science & Health	Kem Louie
Library	Susan Sabatino (Co-chair)
Professional Staff	Nicholas Gramiccioni
Adjunct	Robert Koob
Administration	Dorothy Feola

Standing Charges

1. Recommend policy on course requirements for graduate degrees and the procedures for inaugurating, changing, or terminating graduate courses and programs.
2. Review and recommend new graduate programs, major changes in existing programs, and areas of expansion.

Additional Charges

- Work on “Online Integrity and Standards” for ensuring academic integrity in graduate programs that are offered completely online and make recommendations to the Senate.
- Present the Council’s suggestions for Academic Change Proposal form to the Faculty Senate.

Dates of Council Meetings

September, 21, 2015	Raubinger Hall, Room 428
October 29, 2015	Raubinger Hall, Room 428
December 3, 2015	Valley Road, Room 3065
February 4, 2016	Raubinger Hall, Room 428
March 1, 2016	Valley Road, Room 3065

Accomplishments and Summary of Activities

Programs Reviewed

The Council members reviewed four graduate programs:

M.S. in Chemistry of Materials - New Program

Approved by the Faculty Senate on December 8, 2015.

M.F.A. in Creative and Professional Writing – Change in Existing Program
Approved by the Faculty Senate on February 9, 2016.

M.A. in English – Literature Concentration – Change in Existing Program
Approved by the Faculty Senate on February 9, 2016.

M.B.A. – Change in Existing Program
Approved by the Faculty Senate on April 26, 2016.

Summary of the Council Members' Deliberations

Prof. Bhanu P. S. Chauhan, Chair of the Chemistry Dept. attended the Dec. 3, 2015 meeting to present the new graduate program, the M.S. in Chemistry of Materials, and to answer the questions of the Council members. The M.S. in Chemistry of Materials will establish a new master's degree that will qualify graduates with employment opportunities in the northern New Jersey and metropolitan New York areas. It seeks to capitalize on the success of the faculty at the undergraduate level who have demonstrated success in mentoring chemistry majors. This new program was approved by the Faculty Senate on December 8, 2015.

The English Dept. revised both of the graduate programs it offers. Prof. Rajendar Kaur attended the Feb. 4, 2016 meeting to present these revised graduate programs and answer the questions of the Council members. For the M.A. in English, the course offerings were consolidated and updated to make them more flexible and attractive to students. The revisions to the M.F.A. in Creative and Professional Writing were minor, but also served to streamline the courses and eliminate the requirement for attendance at the Writing across the Curriculum Workshop. These programs of the English Department were approved by the Faculty Senate on February 9, 2016.

The College of Business undertook a substantial revision of the Master's in Business Administration. The revisions were designed to update the M.B.A. and the course offerings, and make the program more competitive and more attractive to potential students. Prof. R. Laud, Marketing and Management Dept., served as head of the task force to review the M.B.A. He attended the March 1, 2016 meeting to present the revision of the graduate program. The M.B.A. review process began in 2014, and the review team had one or two representatives from each department at the College of Business. The team members talked with deans, stakeholders, students, the curriculum committee, and alumni, and investigated the new developments in the marketplace that should be reflected in the M.B.A. The review team analyzed trends in current graduate business degrees. Relevancy of the program and the curriculum was also important. The team members wanted to increase the reputation of the program and maintain accreditation with the AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business). The Association recommends a greater emphasis on globalization and integrative learning in the curriculum. The revised M.B.A. curriculum has the same number of credits as previously and the same six concentrations. The new courses build on the strengths on the faculty to teach these areas of specialization. The process included a tremendous amount of debate of academic questions and business issues. The faculty felt that the M.B.A could become the flagship program of the

College of Business. The final proposal was voted on by all of the faculty at the College of Business and was unanimously accepted. The revised MBA was approved by the Faculty Senate on April 26, 2016.

Additional Charge

- Work on “Online Integrity and Standards” for ensuring academic integrity in graduate programs that are offered completely online and make recommendations to the Senate.

Progress: Contacted the chair of the Technology Council, David Fuentes, regarding this additional charge. Since the Technology Council has this area as their main charge, it would be best to coordinate our recommendations with them. D. Fuentes suggested that we co-ordinate in September, 2016 to discuss our recommendations.

Recommendation: Arrange a meeting with the Technology Council next year to review our documents and co-ordinate our recommendations. The Department of Instructional Research and Technology may also be involved, as deemed necessary.

Additional Charge

- Present the council suggestions for Academic Change Proposal form to the Faculty Senate

Progress: Contacted one of the co-chairs of the Undergraduate Council, Yvonne Roux, regarding this additional charge. Since the Undergraduate Council also sees this form, it would be best to coordinate our recommendations with them. Y. Roux said that their council has not reviewed this form, and suggested that we co-ordinate in September, 2016 to review the form. The Graduate Programs Council members carefully reviewed this form at the Oct. 29, 2015 meeting and listed a number of suggested changes. We will share these suggested revisions with the Undergraduate Council in the fall.

Recommendation: Arrange a meeting with the Undergraduate Council (or maybe just the co-chairs of the council) next year to review the Academic Change Proposal form. Also co-ordinate with J. Lincoln, Associate Provost for Curriculum and International Education, regarding this item.

Priorities for 2016-2017

- Complete work begun on the two additional charges: “Online Integrity and Standards” and revisions to the Academic Change Proposal form.
- Schedule meetings with the Technology Council and the Undergraduate Council to review these charges.