

2019—2020

Graduate Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 22, 2019

1:55 p.m., Weimer 2008

Call to order

Kelleher called to order the first meeting of the 2019-2020 Graduate Committee.

Approval of minutes

A **motion** was made to approve the minutes from the 2-19-19 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2019-2020 meeting scheduling

It was determined bi-weekly (every other week) meetings should be sufficient. Kelleher suggested committee members hold the time on their calendars and he will delete meetings if that date is not needed.

GRE requirements

Treise and Kelleher met with R. Paul Duncan, Senior Associate Dean of the Graduate School, to discuss the GRE requirements. Duncan told them that it is up to the individual colleges to determine their own requirements. He wants the requirements to be formally stated (soon) because the new requirements will be effective with the Fall 2020 admissions and websites and other materials need to be updated. The on-campus and distance GRE requirements must be the same.

A **motion** was made to retain the current GRE requirements. After discussion, it was determined that each chair will discuss this at their next department meeting rather than voting now. The committee members agreed informally to tentatively retain the current requirements.

Co-chairing petition

Prior to the meeting, Kelleher distributed a petition letter written by Carla Fisher regarding an exception to the current policy of “faculty who have not chaired a Ph.D. student are not allowed to do so alone and must have a co-chair (faculty member who has previously graduated a Ph.D. student) overseeing the committee.”

Fisher’s petition explained that she and Carma Bylund should be allowed an exception to the policy based on their significant advising experience and the needs of the student.

A **motion** was made to approve the petition to allow Fisher and Bylund to be co-chairs with Fisher being the lead chair. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Low enrollment classes

The Fall 2019 schedule of graduate courses, including enrollment numbers, was distributed. Courses that are required or are joined with an undergraduate class do not get cancelled for low enrollment. Any other course that has less than five students registered will be cancelled. Only one class was cancelled due to low enrollment this fall—MMC 6566/Communicating Privacy.

It was suggested that we offer MMC 6660/Mass Comm and Society once a year instead of twice to increase enrollment. It's on the schedule for this semester and was removed from the Spring schedule.

INC-focused Ph.D. recruiting/funding

Spiker asked if the program can recruit doctoral students for teaching assignments in the INC. It was suggested there be a "named" fellowship for this purpose.

Spiker will research the opportunities—INC, teaching, immersion, the Agency, Noticias-WUFT, and Kelleher will circulate the fellowship information to the chairs after verifying.

Seneca College "pathway" partnership

A representative from Seneca College (in Canada) spoke with DiStaso about the possibility of having a partnership with the CJC that would allow their best students to apply for a Master's and transfer in two to four courses from their certificate program if accepted. This will be discussed further at another meeting.

The meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be in two weeks—September 5th.

ATTENDING:

Kelleher, Babanikos, Calienes, Chen, DiStaso, Ferguson, Goodman, Ostroff, Rodgers, Spiker, and Hedge. Fisher attended to present her petition.