

2019—2020

Graduate Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 5, 2019

1:55 p.m., Weimer 2008

Call to order

Kelleher called the meeting to order.

Approval of minutes

A **motion** was made to approve the minutes from the 8-22-19 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Old Business

GRE requirements—most of the departments have met and discussed the Graduate School's proposed change to the current Master's GRE requirement policy. Babanikos reported that there was some resistance by Telecom faculty to the idea of keeping the current GRE requirement due to concern that the exam is biased against minority students and poor students who can't afford the exam prep. Ferguson reported that the PR faculty is in favor of keeping the current requirement. The Advertising faculty is split in their decision. Most Journalism faculty members are in favor of keeping the requirement.

Kelleher said there is enough dissent to go forward to the entire graduate faculty for a vote. Dr. Duncan wants a decision as soon as possible and there can be only one requirement for our entire MAMC (academic, pro, and online).

Kelleher will send a notice to all faculty regarding a meeting Thursday, September 12 to discuss the GRE requirement.

INC-focused Ph.D. recruiting/funding—Kelleher is working with Kim Holloway on funding sources. He distributed a list of the sources of foundation funds. Spiker will work with Randy Bennett on a template for a flyer that can be revised to fit each department. The flyer will be sent to Kim Holloway and Margaret Gaylord for review, then back to graduate committee. "Teacher of record" should be included in benefits of our program.

New Business

Graduate faculty appointments for lecturers (for Pro Master's)—Kelleher asked each department chair to identify lecturers who could be active in the Pro Master's and send him the list so they can be nominated for approval to graduate faculty. The requests will then be sent to the graduate school. The Pro Master's program is moving to individual projects rather than

group projects and additional faculty members are needed to work with the students. Perhaps change the committee make-up to one chair and one member. The goal is for students to work with an expert faculty member to guide them. Pro Master's advising needs to be viewed as an important part of the faculty member's work load.

Qualifying exam petition—tabled until a future meeting which Krieger can attend.

Grant projects and work for students of .50 or more—There is an “unwritten policy that students in the Pro Master's one-year plan will not be given an assistantship due to the heavy workload of their program. Kelleher said he will uphold this.

Students with a .50 are not allowed extra projects, for example coding on a grant. The question was raised whether that is a graduate school rule and if exceptions to that policy could be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

The meeting was adjourned.

ATTENDING: Kelleher, Babanikos, Calienes, Chen, DiStaso, Ferguson, Goodman, Ostroff, Rodgers, Spiker, and Hedge.