

2019—2020

## *Graduate Committee Meeting Minutes*

Thursday, 9/19/19

1:55 p.m., Weimer 2008

### **Call to order**

Kelleher called the meeting to order at 1:55 p.m.

### **Approval of minutes**

A **motion** to approve the minutes of 9-5-19 was made by Ferguson, seconded by Babanikos, and passed unanimously.

### **Revised Agenda**

Professor Fisher will meet with the Graduate Committee at a later date, instead of today. She will have additional information regarding students needing accommodations during qualifying exams after meeting with DRC.

### **SONA**

Kelleher encouraged faculty who teach large undergraduate classes to consider including SONA on their syllabi.

### **Assessment**

Kelleher reviewed the 2018-2019 assessment sheets with the committee. Treise entered the data in Compliance Assist and Kelleher will put the committee's response to the data in the report.

### **MAMC:**

SLO #1: Knowledge. Based on thesis/project defenses. Students are measured across three dimensions during the defense: Conceptualization, Method, and Defense (demonstrated broad understanding). Met the threshold of acceptability.

SLO #2: Skills. Based on skills in communicating the subject matter and responding to questions from the committee during the defense. Met the threshold of acceptability.

SLO #3: Professional Behavior. Ethical behaviors, teamwork, cultural sensitivity/appreciation for diverse viewpoints, and professional standards for effective and ethical decision making are measured by the professor of MMC 6660—Mass Communication and Society. During this review period the course was not offered—no data. It was suggested that another class should be used for the measurement or collect the data in the fall when the course will now be offered.

## PHD

SLO #1: Knowledge. Based on successful completion of at least five advanced-level courses. 17 students were assessed, 14 students met the outcome. Met the threshold of acceptability.

SLO #2: Knowledge. Based on the dissertation defense. The rubric includes conceptualizing/contributing, method, and defense. Met the threshold of acceptability.

SLO #3: Skills. Based on the annual doctoral evaluations—all students will produce conference or publication level research studies and dissertations. Also based on the successful placement in academic or professional research positions. Met the threshold of acceptability.

SLO #4: Professional Behavior. Based on exercises in the doctoral colloquium class—MMC 6929. Measuring the display of ethical behaviors, cultural sensitivity and appreciation for diverse viewpoints, leadership, independent and creative thinking. This did not meet the threshold of acceptability. (80 % was the goal, only reached 70%)

SLO #5: Professional Behavior. Based on CV submitted with the annual evaluation. Measures participation in professional and academic service activities on a national scale and/or academic service activities on a university-wide scale that develop leadership skills. 27 students exceeded expectations, 17 met expectations. Met the threshold of acceptability.

Questions/comments regarding the rubrics—

- Do we want them to change their opinions? (#4)
- Do they display sensitivity?
- Are students able to assess each other fairly? Some concern mentioned that due to interpersonal issues, some might rate lower than would be fair.
- Maybe just rate as xx out of xx rather than individually.
- Tighten up SLO #4—remove “leadership, independent and creative thinking.” End the sentence after the word, “viewpoints.”
- Who sets the threshold of acceptability? The Graduate Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

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