

2013-14 FACULTY SENATE
GRADUATES STUDIES POLICIES COMMITTEE
MINUTES
1 April 2014
Approved 5/6/14

Members Present: Barakatt, Hamilton, Heather, Hembree, Kaplan, Miller, Reddick, Sprott, Wassmer, May, Newsome

Members Absent: Blanton, Cowan

Guests: None present.

1. **Call to order:** Called to order at approximately 8:30 a.m.
2. **Minutes of 4 March 2014: Approved with amendment**
Minutes of 18 March 2014: Approved
3. **Report from the Chair:** The Credit Hour Policy amendment regarding credential courses has passed the Senate.
GSPC needs to look into the question of a student using a single course for credit in more than one graduate program. We are looking for current policy/catalog language.
There is still no deadline regarding the “Quality, Meaning, Integrity” definition question.
4. **Report from Dean of Graduate Studies:** There will be a discussion of the Title V changes being proposed at the system-wide graduate deans meeting.
5. **Discussion Item:** Miller brought forward an item that will be in second reading at the May meeting of the Academic Senate. The proposed language reads:

At least 60 percent of the units or more required for the degree shall be in stand-alone graduate courses (those not cross-listed with undergraduate or teaching credential courses.

There was discussion about the redundancy of “at least 60 percent” and “or more”. Also, it was thought that the term “stand-alone” may not have a universally accepted definition and it would be better to simply use the

parenthetical statement in its place. The committee recommended something more like the following:

60 percent or more of the units required for the degree shall be in graduate courses that are not cross-listed with undergraduate or teaching credential courses.

- 6. Nomination for Chair of GSPC for 2014-15:** Julian Heather was elected to be the nominee from GSPC to be the Chair of GSPC for the 2014-15 Academic year.
- 7. Discussion: Paired Course Policy:**
In light of the new Credit Hour Policy which describes different expectations for graduate and undergraduate courses, this policy needs to be revisited. The committee has asked Dean Newsome to bring to us the policy regarding the expectations for graduate students enrolled in undergraduate (not paired) courses. If it is already the policy that graduate student enrolled in undergraduate courses are to be held to a higher standard and required to do extra work, then how do we justify having paired courses?
The committee also asked to work with Dean Newsome to get feedback from programs that currently have paired courses. We also will solicit information on how graduate students in undergraduate courses are evaluated.
- 8. Discussion: Blended Programs:** A short discussion was held on this topic. In particular, the committee was informed that the new blended program in Mechanical Engineering is proceeding as planned.
- 9. Discussion: Charge of GSPC/CPC and possible Graduate Subcommittee or Liaison from GSPC to the Curriculum Subcommittee:** After some discussion, the committee decided to move forward with a proposal to have a member of GSPC serve as an ex-officio member of the Curriculum Subcommittee. The primary reason for this recommendation is to make sure that, regardless of the composition of the Curriculum Subcommittee, there would always be someone with specialized knowledge of Graduate education policies.
- 10. Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15

Tracy Dawn Hamilton, Chair, GSPC