

Graduate Council

Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2017

220 Van Wormer Hall

Attendees: Daniel Ashwood, Kathleen Ballman, Fred Beyette, Fran Meyer, Steven Cahn, Gary Dick, Dan Gottlieb, Jiukuan Hao, Ralph Katerberg, ChengCheng Li, Tasos Ioannides, James Mack, Arnie Miller, Chip Montrose, Missi Stec, Jun Ying, Tanja Nusser, Angela Potochnik, Ron Debry, Jeff Timberlake

Absent: Rebecca Williamson, Doug Burgess (Fran Meyer representing Office of the Registrar)

Staff: Lori Griffin

Agenda Items	Synopsis of Discussion	Outcome
<i>Meeting Minutes</i>	The Council reviewed the minutes from the January 2017 meeting. Minutes were approved with one change -- Daniel Ashwood was inadvertently left off of the attendee list. Lori Griffin will update the minutes.	Approved
<i>Avoiding Admissions Mistakes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The expectation of the University is that all applicants are uploaded into Slate and all admission decisions are processed via Slate.• Automated communication plans can be built in Slate including checks throughout the system to ensure that something is not sent out by mistake.• Not all departments are trained properly in Slate. Not all users attended the live training, which has resulted in a lack of understanding on how to operate Slate.• It was suggested that a user group focus on, “What do I really need to know to make my job work within the system.” This would include the bare bones requirements to work within Slate. It was noted that something similar was tried last year, but the user group tended to get smaller rather than larger.• Grad school needs to be sure all archived training materials are available on a continuing basis.	Discussion
<i>Vignettes</i>	<p>Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the following vignettes that were introduced to the Graduate Leadership Group earlier in the month. The goal was to discuss what was best practice in different situations that have arrived at the graduate school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHOULD WE MAKE THIS EXCEPTION?</p> <p>1.) A program director admits a UC undergraduate into a master’s program, offering a streamlined “ACCEND”-like experience</p>	Discussion

	<p>allowing a student to be both an undergraduate and a graduate student at the same time. The program, in reality, is a 4+1 track, which means the student must have had the undergraduate degree already conferred before technically becoming a graduate student.</p> <p>2.) A program director verbally promises a master’s student that she does not need to complete a master’s thesis in order to graduate, even though the program’s P1 and all other published materials indicate a master’s thesis requirement. The lack of a thesis is revealed at the time of graduation certification.</p> <p>3.) At the time of matriculation, a program director promises a new UC master’s student that she will be able to recycle ten credits from another master’s degree she earned elsewhere. When the student applies to graduate, the Graduate School is asked to approve these credits despite the longstanding policy prohibiting double-dipping of credits from a master’s degree earned elsewhere into a master’s degree at UC.</p> <p>4.) A student matriculates into two degree programs at the same time, and is told by the directors of both programs that the student can double-dip credits and graduate with fewer credits than each degree would require if pursued separately. Unfortunately, these two degree programs are not officially coded by the university as a dual-degree track, which means the student must meet the credit-hour requirements for each degree program completely independently of the other.</p> <p>5.) Just before commencement, a Ph.D. student who already has a tenure-track appointment lined up discovers that his record includes several invalid grades from a decade prior, when he first entered UC. These “incomplete” grades, which have been sitting on his record for years, have now turned into “Fs,” and now the instructor of record is dead and the program holds minimal information about those courses. The program nevertheless asks the Graduate School to change all the old “F” marks to passing letter grades so that the student can graduate, repeating that “he’s a great scholar, has done great work, and deserves to graduate.”</p>	
<i>Next Meeting</i>	Tuesday, March 28, 2017	Information