University Board of Graduate Studies Minutes
Thursday, October 5, 2017, 2-4 p.m.
Zilber 200

Present: Allison Abbott (chair), Kati Berg (vice chair), Sharon Chubbuck, Alison Efford, Marilyn Frenn, Kim Halula (Secretary), Jim Hoelzle, Margaret Nettesheim-Hoffman, Michael O’Hear, Geoffrey Thompson

Present, non-voting: Carrianne Hayslett, Jenny Staab (note taker), John Su, Doug Woods

Not present: John LaDisa, Farrokh Nourzad

I. Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Dr. Abbott.

II. Approval of minutes. September 7, 2017, minutes were approved electronically by a majority of the Board.

III. Reports
   A. Dean of the Graduate School. – Doug Woods
      
      Enrollment updates. Enrollment is up from this time last year, due largely to nursing and the Orbis program.

      Interdisciplinary Neuroscience PhD. The program proposal has been approved by the Board of Trustees.

      No closing of graduate programs. The Graduate School is not closing any programs, and does not have the authority to do so. Funding has been reduced in a couple of programs with low enrollment/student interest and/or for which changes were needed due to new core requirements.

      Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) conferences. Marquette hosted the AJCU Arts and Sciences and Graduate School Deans Conference September 28-30. Dr. Woods reported that since that meeting, he realizes more how Marquette is on the right track with the action it’s taking through the M12 initiatives and the Beyond Boundaries strategic plan. Conference participants were eager to learn about these initiatives.

   B. Graduate School Associate Dean. – Carrianne Hayslett

      New Program Incubator update. There are two new programs which will likely be brought to UBGs in November. One is an MS in Supply Chain Management with a data analytics track. The other is an MS in Health Care Administration which will include an online component as well as an immersive experience, and which has been a collaborative work of nursing and the Graduate School of Management.

   C. UBGs Chair. – Allison Abbott. No report.

IV. New business.
   A. Digital credentials policy. – John Su

      Dr. Su explained the concept of digital credentials, referred to nationally as “badges,” and why Marquette is incorporating them. Badges are digital records designed to recognize specific accomplishments/achievements not solely or otherwise captured by credentials listed on transcripts. Employers and students are increasingly recognizing that groupings of experiences inside and outside of the classroom can provide essential skills, knowledge, and dispositions,
and that social media platforms now provide the opportunity for students to showcase these experiences. The badge system is a vehicle by which job applicants can more fully elaborate on their qualifications.

Dr. Su reviewed the proposed digital credentials policy which includes a list of the categories of badges Marquette will offer and guidelines regarding the badges’:

- Administration and management.
- Creation, maintenance, and awarding.
- Participants.
- Evaluation and review.

Departments will not be required to use badges, but for those who would like to, a policy needs to be in place.

Dr. Abbott advised the group that the policy will be voted on at the next UBGS meeting.

B. Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program (INPR) outline. – Carrianne Hayslett

The group was in agreement that the outline contains the proper technical components and is clear and well presented. One question came up about why the doctoral methods course was put before the master’s methods course in the outline.

**Motion**: To approve the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program outline, with a clarification regarding the order of the two methods courses.

Made by Allison Abbott, seconded by Michael O’Hear. In a brief discussion that followed, Dr. Hoelzle noted that the course PSYC 8125 Advanced Research Design, is listed in the outline for fall 2018, but it is offered in the spring, not fall. This point will need to be revised in the outline.

**Motion passed**: ten in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

C. Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program (INPR) concept paper. – Carrianne Hayslett

Dr. Hayslett read the guidelines for reviewing INPR concept papers. Dr. Halula asked if there is any issue with the architecture courses will be taken at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (UWM). The general consensus was that this is not an issue, since Marquette does not offer these courses and there is collaboration between UWM and Marquette. Dr. Hayslett will revise the INPR guidelines to include the permissibility of courses through appropriate institutions.

The other point that was questioned in the concept paper is how the education courses proposed would tie back into the project description.

**Motion**: To approve the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program concept paper, with a clarification regarding how the education courses will feed into the project.

Made by Allison Abbott, seconded by Sharon Chubbuck. No further discussion.

**Motion passed**: ten in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

V. Old business

**Dissertation credits**. – Doug Woods

The Graduate School requires a minimum 45 credits of course work plus 12 dissertation credits. Some programs require more than 57 credits of course work in addition to the 12 dissertation credits. Most Jesuit colleges/universities have either no dissertation credit requirement or have a variable requirement.
Regarding the financial impact of dissertation credits, we generate about $256,000/year in net revenue from dissertation credits, but also give about $700,000/year in scholarships to cover those credits. This means we give away roughly $3 for every $1 that we receive. If we reduced the dissertation credit requirement, we could investigate the possibility of redirecting those dollars towards more master’s scholarships.

Dr. Woods recommended keeping the 57-credit minimum and making the dissertation credits a 1-12 variable requirement, allowing departments to decide on the number. For example, programs which require more course work credits could require less dissertation credits.

We do not have a requirement that students must first pass the dissertation qualifying exam (DQE) before being allowed to take dissertation credits. Some students may need those credits to meet the required number for financial aid eligibility. Dr. Woods suggested that “graduate research” courses could be created offering research credits to fill this need for a student until the student passes the DQE.

He encouraged the group to continue the dissertation credits conversation with their department colleagues, and Dr. Abbott said that it will be revisited again at a future UBGS meeting.

VI. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:26 p.m. by Dr. Abbott.

Scheduled meetings for 2017-2018 Academic Year
Thursdays, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Meetings will be held in Raynor Library Lower Level, Conference Room C, unless otherwise indicated.

| Nov 9, 2017 | Feb 8, 2018 | Apr 5, 2018, AMU 227 |
| Dec 7, 2017 | Mar 1, 2018 | May 3, 2018 |
| Jan 18, 2018, AMU 227 |

Respectfully submitted,
Jenny Staab