Special UBGS Policy Meeting
April 22 2020

Present:  Jill Birren, Ed Blumenthal (chair), Scott D’Urso, Jim Hoelzle, Norah Johnson, Sarah Kizuk, Lars Olson (senate liaison), Farrokh Nourzad, Michael O’Hear (secretary), Paula Papanek, Jeff Starke (vice chair), Peter Staudenmaier

Present, non-voting:  Carrianne Hayslett, Lee Hovorka (note taker), Carrie Puhls, Theresa Tobin, Carl Wainscott, Doug Woods

Not present:  Dawei Liu (sabbatical sp 2020),

I. Call to order.

II. Ed Blumenthal, Associate Professor & Associate Dean for Research and Graduate.
   a. The Academic Senate met and passed all four of the engineering certificates and approved the following four policies.
   b. Elections of the UBGS will be held at the final meeting on May 7, 2020.
   c. The Annual Report will be submitted on April 22nd and emailed to the UBGS group.

III. Doug Woods, Vice Provost for Graduate & Professional Studies & Dean of the Graduate School. Review and vote on the new or revised policies for the Graduate School. The following policies were reviewed by the UAS and approved by the GSO.
   a. Proposed Additional External Employment by Graduate Students with 50% (i.e., full time) TA/RA/GA Contract.
      Discussion: DGS voted on this 10 hr policy and 21/22 were in favor of it.
      Motion and seconded: 12 approve, 0 oppose, 0 abstain
   b. Proposed Transfer Policy Addendum for Spring 2020 Semester Only
      Discussion: The rationale for this proposal is similar to the justification for enacting the pass/fail grading option for our students, a recognition of the extraordinary impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the lives of students, faculty, and staff at all institutions in Spring 20.
      Feedback from DGS’ has been unanimously in favor (10 of 10 respondents). Feedback from GSO has been unanimously in favor (3/3 GSO Exec Committee).
      Motion and seconded: 12 approve, 0 oppose, 0 abstain
   c. Proposed Incomplete Policy Addendum for Spring 2020 Semester Only
      Discussion: rationale for these proposals is to not disadvantage any students who receive a grade of Incomplete relative to students who receive a final letter grade on the May 12 deadline and have until May 26 to opt into the P/LP/NP grading. Feedback from DGS’ has been unanimously in favor (10 of 10 respondents). Feedback from GSO has been unanimously in favor (3/3 GSO Exec Committee).
      Motion and seconded: 12 approve, 0 oppose, 0 abstain
   d. Proposed time Limitations Policy Addendum for Spring 2020 Semester Only
      Discussion: The rationale for this proposal is that the Spring 2020 semester has caused disruption to research, scholarship, coursework, and practicum/internship/clinical placements that may have made adequate progress difficult for some. The additional semester in time limitation is meant to accommodate for these disruptions. DGS’s were surveyed and given the option of (a) keeping our current policy as is, (b) providing an extension if requested by the student, or (c) providing a blanket ½ year extension. DGS’ chose the current option (c) with 15/26 votes. Option (b) received 10/26 votes, and option (a) received 1/26 votes.
      Motion and seconded: 12 approve, 0 oppose, 0 abstain

IV. Adjourned