



Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Location: Giolas Conference Room 216

Subject: Executive Committee (EC) of The Graduate School meeting minutes

Attendees: Judy Brown, Maria-Luz Fernandez, Jane Gordon, Kent Holsinger (*Ex Officio, Chair*), Barbara Kream (*Ex Officio*), Charles Mahoney, Betsy McCoach, Barbara Parziale (*Ex Officio, Secretary*), Lynn Puddington, Kathy Segerson (*Ex Officio*) and Penny Vlahos

Absent: Mitch Green (sabbatical), Elizabeth Holzer (sabbatical), Joseph Loturco and Etan Markus

Guests: Douglas Adamson, Christopher Heinen, Richard Parnas, and Kylene Perras

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1. Agenda item number one (1) – Call to order. The regular meeting of the Executive Committee for November 13, 2019 was called to order at 3:04 pm.
2. Agenda item number two (2) – Presented for consideration and voting – Approval of the minutes. The minutes of the October 16, 2019 meeting of the Executive Committee were introduced. There was a motion offered to accept the minutes, which was seconded, and the motion was adopted in favor by all members present. **Agenda item number two (2) was passed without dissent.**
3. Agenda item number three (3) – Announcements. Dean Holsinger announced that University President Tom Katsouleas would be visiting The Graduate School on Thursday, January 23 to meet with administrators and staff of The Graduate School. Dean Holsinger invited the Executive Committee to join in the discussions. The response was a resounding “Yes.” Dean Holsinger will contact the Committee to set up a time and place.
4. Agenda item number four (4) – Presented for consideration and voting – *Revise an existing course for S/U grading –Rotations in MCB Laboratories (MCB 6000)*. This is an existing course that the MCB program would like to change from one credit to three credits. After a brief review of the request there was a motion to approve the course revision, which was seconded, and the motion was approved without dissent. **Agenda item number four (4) was passed unanimously.**
5. Agenda item number five (5) - Presented for consideration and voting – *Add a new S/U graded course – Responsible Conduct of Research (MCB 5910)*. This course is currently Grad 5910 and the program would like to change it to an MCB course, number MCB 5910. After a brief review of the request a motion was made to approve the change, which was seconded, and the motion was approved on a show of hands. **Agenda item number five (5) was approved unanimously.**

6. Agenda item number six (6) – Presented for consideration and voting – *Add a new course in IMS – Special Topics in Polymer Science (POLY 5385)*. This is for Polymer Science only. A review of the request revealed that because the program is requesting that the course be repeatable under a variety of topics the Committee suggested the name be changed to “Variable Topics in Polymer Science.” Along with this change the program may also need to change the course number. Therefore, by a show of hands, the Committee decided to not approve this request. The course will be returned to the Polymer Science program so that it may be resubmitted with a new name and number, if necessary. **Agenda item number six (6) was denied by a show of hands.**
7. Agenda item number seven (7) – Presented for consideration and voting – *Add a new course – Communications for Biomedical Scientists (MEDS 6501)*. This new course is a 1 credit course and will be graded S/U. After a brief discussion a motion was made to approve the course with modifications to the proposed catalog copy. The motion was seconded and approved by all members present. **Agenda item number seven (7) was approved with modifications.**
8. Agenda item number eight (8) – Presented for consideration and voting – *Add a new certificate program – Graduate Certificate in Bridge Engineering*. The nation’s highway infrastructure is in desperate need of repairs or replacement. This online certificate program would be the first of its kind for Connecticut and one of very few throughout the nation. This certificate would fulfill a critical need to fill this gap in education. After a brief discussion about this well presented certificate program request, a motion was made to approve the program with minor modifications to the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved by all members. **Agenda item number eight (8) was approved with modifications.**
9. Agenda item number nine (9) – Presented for consideration and voting – *Add a new certificate program – Graduate Certificate in Engineering Data Sciences*. This online certificate program would meet the needs of the School of Engineering industry partners, where demand is high, to formulate and analyze engineering data science problems. After a brief discussion a motion was made to approve the new certificate with modifications to the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands. **Agenda item number nine (9) was approved with modifications.**
10. Agenda item number ten (10) – Presented for consideration and voting – *Add new area of concentration to existing degree – Master of Engineering: Data Sciences*. Students who participate in the Graduate Certificate in Engineering Data Sciences could continue their education for a Master of Engineering: Data Sciences degree. Several of the School of Engineering area industry partners have supported this degree as evidenced by the letters submitted by the Engineering program, proving there is high demand for this area of concentration. After a brief discussion a motion was made to approve the proposal with some modifications. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands. **Agenda item number ten (10) was approved with modifications.**
11. Agenda item number eleven (11) – Dean’s Report and Discussion. A lively discussion was held at length regarding the pros and cons of #GRExit. There was no consensus of opinion as to whether exiting from the requirement for GRE’s was beneficial or not.

12. Agenda item number twelve (12) – New Business and Updates. There was no new business or updates presented at this time.
13. There was a motion offered for adjournment which was seconded and the motion was adopted in favor by all members present. The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm.
14. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for **January 22, 2020 in the Giolas Conference Room.**