



Date: Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Location: WebEx

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

Attendees: Mitch Green, Kent Holsinger (*Ex Officio, Chair*), Elizabeth Holzer, Barbara Kream (*Ex Officio*), Etan Markus, Betsy McCoach, Barbara Parziale (*Ex Officio – Secretary*), Lynn Puddington, Kathy Segerson (*Ex Officio*), and Penny Vlahos.

Absent: Judy Brown, Maria-Luz Fernandez, and Charles Mahoney

Guests: Jane Gordon

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1. Agenda item number one (1) – Call to order. The regular meeting of the Executive Committee for October 21, 2020 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 September 16, 2020 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. There were no announcements at this time.
 4. Agenda item number four (4) – Presented for consideration and voting – *Modify/Change an existing degree or certificate – Pre-Medical and Health Professions Post Baccalaureate Program*. This proposal is for an enrichment program. The change to the name of the program more accurately reflects the health professions preparation offered to the students. Following a brief discussion a motion was made and seconded to approve the request. **Agenda item number four (4) was passed unanimously.**
 5. Agenda item number five (5) - Presented for consideration and voting – *Modify/Change the name of an existing degree or certificate program – Race, Ethnicity and Politics (IREP) Graduate Certificate and MA in Race, Ethnicity, and Politics (IREP)*. This proposal is to change the names of these programs to *Indigeneity, Race, Ethnicity and Politics (IREP) Graduate Certificate and MA in Indigeneity, Race, Ethnicity, and Politics (IREP)*. The proposal is intended to include Indigenous peoples who have long challenged that they are not included in the existing racial and ethnic categories used to describe domestic minorities. After a brief review of the request a motion was made to accept the change which was seconded. **Agenda item number five (5) was approved unanimously.**

6. Agenda item number six (6) – Presented for consideration and voting - *Add or create a new degree or certificate program – PhD in Integrative Studies*. This proposal is a request to create a new interdisciplinary program. After a lengthy discussion of the request it was determined that its creators need to discuss some of the concerns that were raised and then come back with a new proposal. **Agenda item number six (6) was returned to its creators for further development.**
7. Agenda item number seven (7) – Dean’s report and discussion.
 - a. Discussion about a Rubric for admission regarding how to evaluate incoming students and the factors that predict success. Is it wise to get rid of the GRE requirement that some programs still have as an admission requirement? If a program believes it is valuable to determining which students would fit the program, then they may still require it. But, the GRE cannot be optional as this would be discriminatory to the students. There can be, however, a waiver clause in certain circumstances.
 - b. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic there have been fewer requests for the Doctoral Student Travel Fellowship funds. This resulted in a discussion about using the funds to support students with their research during this unprecedented time. The monies would be used instead of a travel fellowship and the students would not be penalized from applying for the DSTF in the future. The membership decided it would be a good idea to get some feedback from their constituents and bring their ideas for discussion next month.
8. Agenda item number eight (8) – New business and updates. There was no new business.
9. 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 4:30 pm.
10. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for **November 11, 2020 on Webex**. This date is a week early due to the Thanksgiving break.