University of Rhode Island  
The Graduate School  
Graduate Council Meeting No. 487, 26 January 2015  
MINUTES

Council Members Present: Peter August, Denise Coppa, Michael Greenfield, Rainer Lohmann, Karen McCurdy, Scott McWilliams, Abran Salazar, Daniel Sheinin, Devon Swanson, Lubos Thoma

Council Members Not Present: Jacqueline Britto, David Faflik, Marc Hutchison, Stephen Kogut, Julia Lovett, Matt Luby, Matt Porter, Evelyn Sterne,

Others Present: Dean Nasser Zawia, Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck, Megan Yakey, John Stevenson, David Byrd, Joanne Hammadou

I. Call to order at 2:03 PM by Dean Zawia

II. Minutes of Meeting Number 486 were approved with one abstention and a minor edit.

III. Announcements

A. Dean Zawia welcomed the newest member of Graduate Council, Abran Salazar from Communication Studies to the Council.

B. Dean Killingbeck recognized recent additions to the Graduate Faculty

BRADLEY CONSENTINO BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES 12/19/2014
LEHUA LEDBETTER WRITING & RHETORIC 12/19/2014
RYAN OMIZO WRITING & RHETORIC 12/19/2014

C. Dean Zawia updated Council on the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools call for nominations. URI has 3 nominations going in. He requested 2 Council members to be NAGS reviewers for one of the awards that URI does not have a nominee for so there is no conflict of interest. Scott McWilliams and Keith Killingbeck will be reviewers for this group.

D. Dean Zawia updated Council on the 2015 Graduate Commencement speaker. To date, we don’t have a speaker yet. We are looking at the pool that the Provost’s office has for those who might receive an honorary degree. Hopefully we will have more information for the February meeting.

E. Dean Zawia and Associate Dean Killingbeck put out a call for nominations for the Excellence in Doctoral Research Awards. The deadline is 10 March 2015 to submit nominations. Awards may be presented in STEM and/or non-STEM areas, depending on the number and quality of nominations. Winners receive a certificate and a $1000 award.
F. Dean Zawia spoke with Council regarding the development of a task force to look deeper into the assistantship distribution issue. He brought up a number of ideas that were touched on at the Fall 2014 Graduate Faculty Summit. He asked for Council’s input on the task force. The goal for this task force is to determine the best practices for the distribution of assistantships. It was suggested that a first step would be to review current practices here at URI and then look at practices at peer universities. There was a good deal of interest in having a representative from each college, a representative from the Provost’s office, and a representative from the Grad School/Council on that committee. The next step would be to include more people from perhaps the Provost’s office, Enrollment Services, Payroll, Human Resources, and perhaps Housing. Each College will be asked for a representative to be part of Phase I. More people will be included for Phase II.

IV. Committees

A. Curriculum committee

Changes Approved

LIN 420 Second Language Acquisition
BUS 463 Advanced Concepts in Supply Chain Management
CVE 445 Pavement Designs
EDC 516 Teaching English as a Second Language
EDC 527/PSY 527 Language Study for Reading Teachers
EDC 529 Foundations in Educational Research
EDC 555 Quantitative Thinking and Applications for Educational Data
EDC 563 Teaching Reading to Multicultural Populations
EDC 575 Supervised Field Study/Practicum and Seminar in Education

New Courses Approved

PSC 405/HDF 405 Policy Issues in Health and Aging
ISE 420/PSY420 Introduction to Human Factors and Ergonomics
CSC 593 Programming for Scientists
CFS 580 Professional Skills for Cyber Security
EDC 501 Socio-Cultural Aspects of Language Minority Education
EDC 506 Researching Language in Education Settings
EDC 515 Structured English Immersion and Sheltered English
EDC 519 Teaching Practicum in TESOL/Dual Language Immersion
EDC 532 Seminar in Digital Literacy and Learning
EDC 535 Leading with Digital Literacy
EDP 622 Community Service Learning

Tabled Items

COM 512 Research Training
CFS 590 Cyber Security Internship

Additional Curricular Matters
College of Nursing proposal to increase Post BS DNP degree by 1 credit to a total of 72 credits is approved.

B. New Program Committee
   a. Cyber Security Professional Science Masters approved pending approval of CFS 590
   b. Teaching English as a Second Language and Dual Language Immersion was approved

V. Topics for Discussion
   A. John Stevenson came in to discuss the proposed rubrics for Fellowship, Scholarship, Diversity, and EGRA award rubrics. The Council feels that a rubric should be sent out with the call for nominations. John Stevenson and Michael Greenfield will make the edits discussed and send to Keith Killingbeck for distribution with the call for nominations.

   B. Permanent embargoes for theses/dissertations was tabled due to time constraints

   C. Program Committee structure for students in CELS Biological and Environmental Sciences degree program regarding who is qualified as 'inside' members is being reviewed. Models from other universities were looked at to help guide the discussion. This item was tabled due to time constraints.

   D. Intellectual Opportunity Credits and what constitutes a student's 'major field of study' was tabled due time constraints

   E. The emerging issue of students who have completed all of the credits for a postgraduate certificate before being admitted to the certificate program, and then wanting to take the certificate after the fact, yet with nothing left in which to enroll (other than CRG 999) was tabled due to time constraints.

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

VI. Adjournment at 4:04pm