

Graduate Council Meeting No. 534 November 9, 2020 Minutes

Council Members Present: Gabriel DePace, Jesse Duroha, Feruz Ganikhano, Nisa Ghonem, Shingo Goto, Rabia Hos, Bethany Jenkins, Aaron Ley, Mary MacDonald, Mary Moen, Colleen Mouw, Martha Rojas, Alison Tovar, Fred Vetter, Jin Jian Xiao, Mehmet Gokhan Yalcin

Council Members Absent: Kathy Hutchinson

Graduate School Present: Brenton DeBoef, Alycia Mosley Austin, Cara Mitnick, Corinne Kulesh, Jessica Martinez

I. Call to order

- Time: 2:02 pm by Chair Colleen Mouw

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Number 533, October 5, 2020

- ★ *Motion to approve the minutes from meeting No. 533.*
 - *Majority approved*
 - *1 abstained*

III. Announcements

A. Assessment Update (*DeBoef and Christy Ashley*)

1. Christy Ashley, Graduate Assessment Coordinator, provided a short presentation to the council discussing graduate assessment. Christy stated that this semester there is a 100% compliance from all graduate programs due to more flexible reporting options. Program Directors and Department Chairs will receive a needs assessment survey soon to gather information on what they would like to learn more about and in return receive content that will add value to the assessment process. An assessment Badge for graduate students is in the works.

B. Contingency Admissions (*Mosley Austin*)

1. Associate Dean Mosley Austin discussed a current practice of the Graduate School for applicants who have an undergraduate GPA below 3.0, but above 2.5. Programs are instructed to select contingency admissions if they want to accept the student's application. Associate Dean Mosley Austin then reviews the application and the department's justification for admittance. Last admission cycle, the Healthcare Management online Master's degree program piloted the option for applicants who had above 2.5 GPA and 5 years work experience to not go under additional review. The Graduate School is looking to extend this option to additional programs. Within the current cycle, an additional question was added to applicants asking if they have 5 years of work experience. Currently students who are accepted as contingency admissions, would be required to take two non-matric courses. Online programs currently do not have the option for non-matric online courses available.

C. Professional Development Upcoming Events (*Mitnick*)

1. Director Mitnick displayed upcoming Professional Development programs for November 2020.
2. Director Mitnick and Associate Dean Mosley Austin reflected on the great feedback received from students regarding the Time Management Strategies session they hosted.
3. Graduate Students can apply for national fellowships such as Fulbright, Boren, and Demers.
4. The Graduate Writing Center is moving from Roosevelt to Pastore 250 in Spring 2021. Will continue to offer virtual appointments and will be able to accommodate in person scheduled meetings in the Spring 2021.

D. Recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty since those listed on October 5, 2020 meeting agenda (*DeBoef*)

Nancy Bartow Rybicki, adjunct appointment, Natural Resources Science, College of the Environment and Life Sciences

Vincent M. Colapietro, adjunct appointment, Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences

M. Conor McManus, adjunct professor, Graduate School of Oceanography

IV. New Business

A. Transfer Credit Rule (*DeBoef*)

1. Guest Deborah Riebe, Associate Dean of College of Health Science and Peter Blanpied, Chair of Physical Therapy Program, joined the discussion.
 2. Question was proposed to the council if sections 7.21, 7.22, and 7.54 of the manual should be rewritten to add the changes proposed in the document shared with the council.
 3. Alison Tovar explained that students entering a Ph.D. program have 30 credits from their Master's degree that gets counted towards their Pd.D degree. The request was to add the Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT) Practice degree as also deserving 30 credits.
 4. Peter Blanpied states that there currently is not a Master's program for DPT. A student would go from a baccalaureate degree straight to a clinical doctoral degree. The program requests to be able to apply some credits from the baccalaureate degree to the doctoral degree program equivalent to the process for a master's degree.
 5. Interim Dean DeBoef explained that that the Combined Committee and the Executive Committee of the Graduate School proposed that sections 7.21, 7.22, and 7.54 be revised to allow flexibility for awarding 30 credits for other graduate-level degrees. Examples of qualifying degrees are DPT, MD, and MFA. The PharmD was specifically mentioned as a degree that would not qualify for 30 credits towards a PhD.
- ★ *Motion to adopt the proposed changes to sections 7.21, 7.22 and 7.54.*
- *Majority approved*
 - *1 opposed*

V. New Graduate Programs & Notice of Change (See Google Drive for Course forms) (*Mosley Austin*)

New Graduate Program

GIS Graduate Certificate Program

- ★ *Motion to recommend approval for the new GIS Graduate Certificate Program.*
- *Unanimously approved*

Notice of Change

Pharmaceutical Sciences Doctoral Program - Comp exams

- ★ *Motion to TABLE for the notice of change for Pharmaceutical Sciences Doctoral Program (Comp Exams).*
- *Majority approved*

- 1 abstained

Health Outcomes Track

- ★ *Motion to recommend approval for notice of change for Health Outcomes Track.*
 - *Unanimously approved*

Natural Resources and the Environment

- ★ *Motion to recommend approval of notice of change for Natural Resource and the Environment.*
 - *Unanimously approved*

VI. Graduate Curriculum (See Google Drive for Course forms) (DeBoef)

400-Level Course Changes

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

GER 408 The German Language Past and Present

Introduction to the history and present state of the German languages. Study of standard and colloquial German, dialects, Swiss and Austrian variations, language of youth and professions. Analysis of various text types. Tendencies in present-day German. (Lec. 3) *Pre: 305 or permission of instructor.*

Allowing graduate credit.

- ★ *Unanimously approved*

PSC 442 International Political Economy

Examines the impact of political and economic influences on interactions between and within states.

Allowing graduate credit.

- ★ *Unanimously approved*

500-Level Course Changes

COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

EVS 509 Web-Based Mapping

This course is designed to develop expertise using web-based GIS tools to analyze spatial patterns and relationships that are relevant to environmental and natural resource management. *3 credits.*

Changing from two to three credits for this accelerated online course. Changing course title and prerequisites.

- ★ *Unanimously approved*

EVS 511 Web-Based Mapping 2

This course is designed develop expertise using web-based GIS tools to analyze spatial patterns and relationships that are relevant to environmental and natural resource management. *3 credits.*

Course deletion.

- ★ *Unanimously approved*

EVS 514 Environmental Data Analysis and Visualization

This course focuses on developing knowledge and skills to manage environmental datasets using best practices to ensure data quality as well as employing standard approaches to summarize and communicate findings. *3 credits. Graduate standing or permission of instructor.*

Changing from two to three credits for this accelerated online course. Changing course title and prerequisites.

- ★ *Unanimously approved*

EVS 515 Environmental Data Analysis

This course will provide a foundation for analyzing environmental datasets to inform scientific understanding and management decisions, with a particular focus on tools for natural resource management and monitoring. *3 credits.*

Course deletion.

★ *Unanimously approved*

EVS 518 Sustainable Natural Resource Management

This course provides an in-depth exploration of emerging and established approaches to sustainable natural resource management from a variety of disciplines. *3 credits. EVS 514 or permission of instructor.*

Changing from two to three credits for this accelerated online course. Changing Prerequisites.

★ *Unanimously approved*

EVS 519 Sustainable Natural Resource Management

This course presents frameworks for natural resource decision making that facilitate development of management objectives, evaluation and selection of management alternatives, and assessment of management outcomes. *3 credits. EVS 509, EVS 514, and EVS 518 or permission of instructor.*

Changing from two to three credits for this accelerated online course. Changing Prerequisites.

★ *Unanimously approved*

MAF 500 Race, Gender, Colonialism and Science

Applies social science tools to the study of the practice of science (including ecology and marine science) as cultural phenomena. *3 credits.*

Changing title.

★ *Unanimously approved*

NRS 582 Innovative Subsurface Remediation Technologies

Innovative remediation technologies for treating contaminated groundwater and sediments: theory, applications, and limitations of selected methods. Discussion of case studies. *4 credits.*

Changing course number from NRS 583 to minimize confusion with cross-listed course.

★ *Unanimously approved*

COLLEGE OF NURSING

NUR 500, 511, 512, 515, 516, 517, 519, 524, 538, 539, 552, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588; THN 506, 524

Course deletions.

★ *Majority approved*

★ *1 abstained*

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

BPS 555 Protein Molecular Modeling for Biomedical Sciences

Cutting edge computer software to study the 3D-structure of proteins/RNA/DNA of biomedical interest. Application of course topics will be required via a research project to create new knowledge. *3 credits. Graduate standing.*

Changing instruction method to lecture. Changing description and prerequisites.

★ *Unanimously approved*

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY

OCG 501 Physical Oceanography

Basic course covering physical properties of seawater, heat budget, distribution of variables, dynamics, water masses and general circulation, waves and tides. *3 credits. Matriculating URI Online Masters of Oceanography student or permission of instructor.*

Changing to accelerated online course. Changing prerequisites.
★ *Unanimously approved*

OCG 506 Numerical Models and Data Analysis in Ocean Sciences

An introduction to numerical methods in all disciplines of oceanography and ocean engineering. Topics include model formulation, analysis, and simulation; data analysis and parameter estimation. Computer based problem solving. 3 credits. *Matriculating URI Online Masters of Oceanography student, one URI Online Masters of Oceanography core course or permission of instructor.*

Changing to accelerated online course. Changing prerequisites.
★ *Unanimously approved*

OCG 521 Chemical Oceanography

Processes regulating the composition of seawater and the distribution of chemical species. The interaction of marine chemistry with the ocean floor, atmosphere, and marine organisms. 3 credits. *Matriculating URI Online Masters of Oceanography student or permission of instructor.*

Changing to accelerated online course. Changing prerequisites.
★ *Unanimously approved*

OCG 533 Graduate Writing In Marine And Environment

Graduate writing in marine and environmental sciences; writing and editing journal articles and abstracts; principles and practice in scientific writing. 3 credits. *Matriculating URI Online Masters of Oceanography student, one URI Online Masters of Oceanography core course or permission of instructor.*

Changing to accelerated online course. Changing prerequisites.
★ *Unanimously approved*

OCG 540 Geological Oceanography

Origin and evolution of the ocean basin and its margin: morphology, structure, plate tectonics, volcanism, geochemistry, stratigraphy, sedimentation, and paleoceanography. 4 credits. *Matriculating URI Online Masters of Oceanography student or permission of instructor.*

Changing to accelerated online course. Changing prerequisites.
★ *Unanimously approved*

OCG 555 Modern Oceanographic Imaging and Mapping Technique

Overview of current imaging and mapping techniques used in oceanography and ocean engineering including; photographic and laser imaging, side scan and multibeam sonar; underwater vehicle navigation and map making. 3 credits. *Matriculating URI Online Masters of Oceanography student, one URI Online Masters of Oceanography core course or permission of instructor.*

Changing to accelerated online course. Changing prerequisites.
★ *Unanimously approved*

OCG 561 Biological Oceanography

Dynamics of marine ecosystems; patterns of production and distribution of plankton, benthos, and nekton in relationship to their environment. 4 credits. *Matriculating URI Online Masters of Oceanography student or permission of instructor.*

Changing to accelerated online course. Changing prerequisites.
★ *Unanimously approved*

400-Level New Course Proposals

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

STA 400 Introduction to the Analysis of Missing Data

Upper-level undergraduate course in missing data analysis. Covered topics will include missing data methods in experiments, deletion methods, single imputation methods, and multiple imputations. *4 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

500-Level New Course Proposals**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES****HIS 500 Introduction to Historical Study**

This course introduces incoming graduate students to the culture, expectations, and practices of professional historians. It exposes students to the most significant historical theories, approaches, and methodologies in the field. *3 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

PSC 588 The Political Economy of International Migration

Examines politics and policies of international migration in sending/receiving countries, analyses the political, social and economic effects of migration, discusses various human rights aspects of migration. *3 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

STA 500 Analysis of Missing Data

STA 500 is designed as a graduate course in missing data theory. Covered topics include Full Information Maximum Likelihood, Expectation-Maximization algorithm, Multiple Imputation, and nonignorable missing data models. *4 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES**NRS 570 Geospatial Data Acquisition and Management**

Examine the fundamental structure of primary GIS data and integration of non-spatial data sources. Focus is on database creation and data management workflows to prepare data for analysis and visualization. *3 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

NRS 571 Techniques in Geospatial Data Analysis

Identify and apply appropriate geoprocessing tools or workflows for geospatial analysis in both the desktop and cloud GIS environments to support decision making and problem-solving across discipline. *3 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

NRS 572 Adv. Topics in Geospatial Data Visualization

Create visualizations using web maps and application templates available within ArcGIS Online. Apply techniques for effective data presentation while creating storymaps, interactive applications and data dashboards. *3 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

NRS 573 Emerging Technologies in Geospatial Data Collection

Develop advanced level skills in mobile data collection using field operation applications in ArcGIS Online. Explore emerging techniques to integrate data feeds and imagery using GIS technology. *3 credits.*

★ *Unanimously approved*

COLLEGE OF THE ENGINEERING**ELE 520X Cyber Physical System Security**

Fundamental constructions and emerging challenges unique to today's cyber-physical systems. Solutions from the perspectives of systems specification, system modeling, network programming, and formal verification (specific focus on electrical power grids). *3 credits.*

600-Level New Course Proposals

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY

OCG 601 Ocean Resilience

Course focuses on complex issues related to changes in the ocean environment. Topics include climate change, sea level rise, fisheries management, marine pollution, natural hazards and emerging ocean energy initiatives. 3 credits.

★ *Unanimously approved*

VII. Old Business

VIII. Adjournment

➤ Time: 3:17 pm by Chair Colleen Mouw