The Graduate Council met on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, at 3:30 p.m. in the Peabody Boardroom, Administration Building.


Members absent: Peter Brosius, Jennifer Cannon, William Fitt, Susan Haire, Michele Lease, Stephen Ramos, Cynthia Vail, and Sally Zepeda.

Dean Coffield called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes of the November 12, 2014, Graduate Council meeting were approved as posted on the Graduate School website.

Graduate Council Committees Reports and Action Items

A. Program Committee
   Report - Edward Delgado-Romero, Chair
   No report.

B. Administrative Committee
   Report - Jessica Muilenburg, Chair.
   The administrative committee met on April 23, 2015, to discuss changes to the Graduate Recruitment Opportunity Assistantship (GROs) given out by the Graduate School at the University of Georgia. Members present were: Jessica Muilenberg, chair; Adrian Childs’ Scott Merkle; Edward Delgado-Romero; and Meredith Welch-Devine.

Discussion included the selection of GROs and if these assistantships were considered second tier to the GSAs. The committee has suggestions, such as submitting GSAs and GROs as one group, and allowing extra nominations per department if there were underserved populations eligible (so perhaps and 2 extra nominations). This would keep departments from nominating all students they see as eligible for the assistantship (in some cases 14), and reducing the burden of the reviewers reviewing applications that are not competitive. There was also the strong suggestion if this is done that the Graduate School continue to set aside a certain percentage of the assistantships that only go to underserved populations, but the student would not know if they received a GSA or a GRO since they would both have the same name. Then, people who identify as underserved can also participate in the programs that are included in the Graduate
School’s diversity office whether or not they receive a GSA or a GRO. The Diversity Office in the Graduate School was to be included in the decision so the exclusion of a “GRO” assistantship would not look like a negative for the University or recruitment measures. The committee also discussed late submission of reviewers, perhaps a penalty of loss of consideration of assistantships since this holds up the process for recruitment of students to the University.

C. Admission and Retention Committee
Report - Adrian Childs, Chair
The committee met on December 17, 2014, to hear one grade appeal, which was approved. Members in attendance were: Georgia Harrison Hall, Michele Lease, William Miller, David Okech, and Beth Preston plus Dean Julie Coffield, Cheri Bliss, Meredith Welch-Devine, and Libby Johnson from the Graduate School. Committee chair Adrian Childs was recused from the hearing, so Michele Lease served as acting chair.

D. Appointment and Reappointment Committee
Report - Lance Palmer, Chair
The committee convened on Monday, December 8, 2014 and reviewed applications for appointment and reappointment to the Graduate Faculty based on the criteria outlined in the Graduate Faculty Procedures. The committee reviewed four applications for reappointment to graduate faculty of retired faculty and approved three of the applications for reappointment. The committee reviewed two applications for reappointment to graduate faculty and both applications were approved. The committee reviewed 14 applications for appointment to graduate faculty of current UGA non-tenure track faculty and approved 10 of the applications for appointment.

E. Curriculum Committee
Report - Annette Poulsen, Chair
Since the last meeting of the Council, the committee approved 105 new courses, 4 deletions, and 158 course change applications.

Old Business
No old business.

New Business
No new business.

Information Items
The following items have been administratively approved by the Graduate School:
- Removal of the Department of Foods and Nutrition from the list of departments authorized to offer the interdisciplinary major in toxicology (MS and PhD).
- Allowing the Department of Population Health to continue offering the Master of Avian Health and Medicine degree program and the Graduate Certificate in Avian Health without the University of Melbourne.
- Dual Degree Program - BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences/MS in Pharmacy
- Major name change: From: PhD in Research and Evaluation Methodologies; To: PhD in Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methodologies
- Termination of the MAT in Romance Languages.
Dean Coffield thanked the members of the Council for their service during the 2014-15 academic year and members whose term expired at the end of the year were recognized for their service for the past three years.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m