Graduate Affairs Committee Minutes

Date: May 26, 2015
Time: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Location: CE 405

Meeting called by: Dr. Janice Blum

Attendees:

Janice Blum (Chair), Randy Brutkiewicz, Thomas Davis, Gregory Druschel, Patricia Ebright, Karl MacDorman, Deborah McGregor, Jacquelynn O'Palka, David Peters, Randall Roper, John Schild, David Skalnik, Jody Sundt, Annela Teemant, Andrew Winship; Staff: Dezra Despain

Guests: Dr. Ying Zhang, Ph.D. Department of Biostatistics; Dr. Thankam Thyvalikakath, DDS, PhD, School of Dentistry

Minutes

Approval of the Minutes for April 28, 2015	Blum

IU Dean's Report	Wimbush

Not in attendance

Purdue University Report	Story

Not in attendance

Associate Dean's Report	Blum

- Proposal to change policy on application fee waiver for returning Graduate Non-Degree students – approved

    The IUPUI Graduate Office has an existing policy regarding previously admitted Graduate Non-Degree (GND) students which states they do not have to pay the application fee as a returning student to the program if they were previously admitted to the program on or after January 1, 1993.

    We are proposing there should be no fee if GND returning students were enrolled in the past 5 years or less but the full fee, and a new Grad eApp (electronic application) is required after 5 years. Without a new application, in order to get students record activated, we have to manually enter data into SIS to update their record. This can take additional staff time and requires communication with the applicant creating inefficiencies in the application process. In order to streamline this process and create efficiencies within the IUPUI Graduate Office we are proposing this change.

- The Graduate Office has interviewed two candidates for the IU Admissions position and hope to have someone hired within the next month or so.

- Moving forward, we will set up a Graduate Affairs Committee Box account for proposals and documents so that they are available to you in advance.

- There have been meetings with Purdue School of Science and Engineering where discussion about the agreement with Purdue continues to go forward as they move towards autonomy for more of their programs.

- Meetings with the Registrar about the accelerated programs are coming up. There is a preference from undergraduate Enrollment Management to award the Bachelor's degree after the fourth year for accelerated programs.

- The Student Advocate position will be open as of the end of May. Contact Jason Spratt for information.

Assistant Dean's Report	Mitchell

Not in attendance

Graduate and Professional Student Government	Greco

Not in attendance

Graduate Office Reports	Blum

There were 13 PhD's, 62 Masters, and 8 Graduate Certificates awarded in May.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Subcommittee Report	O'Palka

The committee met last week and saw 8 course changes, 5 returning courses, and 16 new courses. Our next meeting will be in September.

Fellowship Subcommittee Report	Blum

Awarded three President Diversity Initiatives Dissertation Year Fellowships. All awardees were students from the School of Medicine.

Graduate Recruitment Council Report	Mahoney

Not in attendance

Program Review	Blum

- Collaborative International Dual Master of Science (MS) degree Program in Biostatistics to be offered by Indiana University in Indianapolis and Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) in China -- approved with 2 abstentions.

  One of the questions brought up by a reviewer is that this proposal would mostly recruit students to IU from SJTU. How many students from IU would be expected to go to SJTU? The response was that this program is intended to attract high quality students from SJTU. They do recognize that the reciprocity is not as attractive, but the possibility is there for IU students to go to SJTU.

  Another reviewer question noted that SJTU has agreements with other universities. Would any of those agreements also include Biostatistics? The response was that SJTU does well with working with other Universities, but only Biostatistics will be offered here.

  SJTU is a highly desirable university to work with; having this program in place allows IUPUI to attract talented students from China.

  Modify proposal to include these responses and send back to Dezra.

  Why is this a dual program if the incentive for IU students to go there is minimal?

  This is a way to attract quality students who are interested in Biostatistics since SJTU does not offer Biostatistics. It was brought up that IU has an option for dual degrees. One of the benefits of a dual degree is that you can transfer a large number of courses, which is why getting consensus from Math to approve the equivalency of the SJTU courses was important.

  The way it is set up now, a student from IU would have to go to China for their first year, then return here to complete the rest of the dual degree. This may not be of interest now, but with the rapid changes in China, the possibility exists where this could change. It would be best if we could get involved early, rather than wait and have some other campus or university move on this before we can.

  It was noted that even though this becomes more a recruitment program than a dual degree, it was discussed that we need to have this type of program on our campus.

- MS in Education in Technology for Learning – new online degree – approved with modifications

  The proposal should have a description of what it means to be Urban to set it apart from Bloomington.

  The 2.5 GPA should be changed to 3.0.

  It was mentioned that this proposal is not the most recent. There is one with an addendum that addresses some of these concerns. Dr. Blum said to submit the most recent proposal that includes the addendum.

  A letter from the dean showing commitment to hiring a clinical, fulltime or part time faculty was requested.

  The growth expectations for programs seem high with four other technology master programs in the State of Indiana. This could be addressed in the proposal.

- MA Philanthropic Studies – new online degree – Tabled for 30 days remediation; both the School of Philanthropy and SPEA need to resolve issues related to course sharing and potential overlap in programs and inform us of their decision.

  It was requested that a letter from the dean indicating the commitment to faculty expansion be submitted.

  SPEA's concern is that the proposal understates the overlap with SPEA. University requirements for online degrees are two-fold; no duplication without distinction and existing programs cannot compete with other online programs.

  In regards to no duplication without distinction, courses are available both in SPEA and Philanthropy but the two schools have not worked out how they will be counted in the programs. In regards to existing programs not competing with other online programs, this proposed degree program will compete with existing online certificates and degree programs in Non Profit Management.

  The broader concern from SPEA is that the proposal was put forward without their approval or cooperation.

  They have similar concerns with the certificate.

The response from Philanthropy is that this program is not a new program, but has been in existence since 1993. Currently, most of the courses are offered online; this proposal packages it as an online degree and makes it official. Philanthropy is willing to create new courses if SPEA has issues with them using their courses.

This proposal has been discussed for over two years in faculty council. SPEA has faculty members that attend this council, and also who have voting rights. SPEA has had opportunities to be aware of the progress of these degrees.

Philanthropy received a grant from President McRobbie to develop this program online. It came from his recommendation, as well as outside recommendations, saying that there was a gap in the market place and that there was a need for their unique degree. This degree is different from SPEA's Nonprofit Management degree.

SPEA was under the impression that proposals such as this were going to be held until a final agreement between the two programs was reached. This is the first time they have seen this proposal and they did not know it was being put forward to OnlineIU and the GAC.

SPEA requested that the proposal be tabled until the two programs could come to an agreement. Dr. Blum agreed to table it and asked the two programs work together to resolve these issues. The concern is that if these degrees aren't proposed by our campus, then another campus will do it, so it will be advantageous to work through these issues as soon as possible.

- Accelerated BS in Informatics and Masters in Jurisprudence -- approved

  It was requested to award the BS degree after 4 years, not 5.

  There is a discrepancy in the course totals in the tables. Please clarify.

- Existing Graduate Certificate in Philanthropic Studies to move online -- Tabled for 30 days remediation; both schools need to resolve this and inform us of their decision.

- MS in Criminal Justice & Public Safety to move online – approve

- Minor in Dental Informatics – Tabled; The School of Informatics & Computing wants their dean to weigh in before voting on this proposal. Once SOIC weighs in, this will go out as an electronic vote.

- Informational Item: Ph.D. in Biology site move to IUPUI

- Informational Item: Ph.D. in Chemistry and Chemical Biology site move to IUPUI

Discussion

- English proficiency;

    The School of Science, Engineering, and Dr. Blum are having discussions about students taking the EAP exams as soon as they come in the first week.

    One option is, if they don't pass the test the first time, they can retake the 2nd week of class. This would avoid the Graduate Office from having to give an approval for the 2nd test. If they don't pass the second time, they immediately are enrolled in the class they need. Also, If they don't pass the test the first time and don't retake the test, they would immediately enroll in the class. The pros to this option is that they will take the course at the beginning of their graduate career instead of potentially taking the course at the end of their graduate career. The cons is that if they take the test the 2nd week and don't pass, they would have to drop a course and potentially have W's on their transcripts. Also, there would be fees involved.

    The other option is to have them take the first test and let them know the 2nd test must be completed as soon as possible in that first semester. If they need to take the EAP course, they can do so the 2nd semester.

    We have had students in their fifth year who still have not taken the required EAP courses. We are trying to mitigate this situation.

    A written form outlining this information will be presented to members at the next meeting.

- Resident tuition is going up. Non-resident tuition is not going up.

Next Meeting and Adjournment (**TBD**)