

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

September 25, 2018

The Graduate Council met at 10:00 pm in Thomas Boyd Hall in Room 135 with the following members present: Broussard, Lockridge, Richardson (ex-officio), Adams, Cai, Frick, Gansle, Lindau, Perry, and Seifried.

Absent members: Lee (ex-officio), Chance, de Queiroz, Francis, Husseneder, Piccoli, and Pojman.

Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2018

Broussard asked if there were any comments on the August's meeting minutes.

- Gansle- In the section, English Requirements for Graduate Students, in the word “not” should be removed from the following sentence: “She has researched the laws governing this and discovered the same requirements exist for anyone in a teaching capacity, not including faculty members.”
- Broussard- in the Interim Dean’s Report, the tense of “says” should be changed. “He says he will give an update on the search for a permanent Dean as soon as one is available.”
- Broussard- in the Graduate Certificate in Business discussion section, the following changes were suggested: the tense of “says” in the sentence: “He says the market for MBAs has become very competitive.”
 - The wording of the following two sentences: “Schneider opened the floor for questions.” and “Broussard suggested a statement be included clarifying admission requirements.”
- In the English Requirements for Incoming Graduate Assistants section, she suggested “department” be capitalized, in this sentence: “Chance mentioned a similar issue with an international student in the Marketing department.”
- Lastly, in the Dissertations in Foreign Languages section, use a comma instead of a semi-colon in this sentence: “Richardson suggested making a requirement for all LSU theses and dissertations to be written in English; excluding any from foreign language departments and Comparative Literature.”

Perry motioned the minutes be approved with suggested changes, Gansle seconded, and the motioned passed with one abstention.

Chair’s Report

- No report.

Interim Dean's Report

- Richardson introduced the new Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Carol Wicks. He also announced Provost Sasha Thackaberry would attend the Graduate Council meeting in October to discuss LSU Online.

Academic Affairs' Report

- No report.

New Business

Letter of Intent: MS in Sport Management

Melinda Solmon, Director of the School of Kinesiology, informed the Council of the purpose of the MS in Sport Management. It has a different focus than the other three specializations in the MS in Kinesiology program. The separation of this degree would improve its marketability and the marketability of their graduates.

Solmon entertained questions from the floor. Lindau asked if courses are going to be taught online exclusively. Solmon stated some courses are available online, and others are available to students on campus. There is currently no crossover between LSU Online students enrolling in courses on the main campus or vice versa. Husseneder inquired about volunteerism opportunities that are available for students enrolled in the program. Solmon listed several organizations that currently serve as host sites for students volunteering. Sharky motioned to approve, Lindau seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Proposal: MS in Animal, Dairy, and Poultry Sciences

A representative was not available to attend the meeting. Broussard informed everyone that the proposal is to change the name of the MS program. Gansle motioned to approve, Lockridge seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Proposal: Ph.D. in Animal, Dairy, and Poultry Sciences

A representative was not available to attend the meeting. Broussard informed everyone that the proposal is to change the name of the Ph.D. program. Gansle motioned to approve, Lockridge seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Resolution: Emeritus Status and Graduate Committees

Richardson summarized the proposed resolution and clarified that it only defines the role of Emeritus faculty with graduate student committees. He continued to say this issue has come up recently in departments. Additional research on the topic showed that it is not a specific answer in the current policy. At the conclusion of a brief discussion by council members present, Gansle made a motion to approve the resolution as follows:

“Faculty members who retired as full members of the graduate faculty but who do not have emeritus status may serve on thesis or dissertation committees with administrative approval submitted by the department, and approved by the Dean of the Graduate School.”

Lockridge proposed the following amendment be added to the current motion:

“Faculty members serving on graduate students’ masters or doctoral committees as chair or co-chair may continue in the role after retiring from LSU.”

Perry seconded the amended motion, and the resolution passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Posthumous Degree Request

Ray Diamond from the LSU Law Center spoke to council members about the request for a posthumous degree for Adam Dows. Adam Dows, a rising 3L in the Law Center, recently passed away this summer. In university terms, he was heading into his third term with a 2.59 GPA. Diamond referenced the university’s policies: PS-86 and PS-86.2. These policies govern posthumous degrees for the A&M campus; however, neither addresses posthumous degrees for professional students. Professional schools establishing their own policies to govern posthumous degrees is consistent with the realignment of the Law Center and the A&M Campus. Diamond read a statement from the report of the transition working group from June 30, 2015:

“Policies and procedures, including permanent memoranda and policy statements, are under review to identify those that may be in conflict. Revisions will be made as needed consistent with the realignment guidelines submitted to the ADA.”

He mentioned that PS 86.2 did not include regulations for professional schools in the recently published revisions. Diamond read another statement from the Realignment Guidelines submitted to the ABA that says:

“Students enrolled in the academic programs of the Law Center shall continue to be governed by the academic policies deemed appropriate by the Dean and the faculty of the Law Center.”

He concluded by saying that the statements suggest that there is no conflict or duplication of standards present. Diamond entertained questions from the floor.

Adams asked if the student left to start a new business, would it be appropriate to award a degree several years later? Diamond says he is highly doubtful that would be appropriate, and began to discuss Dows' academic progress. Dows completed his 2L term but passed away prior to beginning 3L term. Adams asked what is the policy if a student passes away between finishing 1L and beginning 2L? Diamond says that student would not receive a posthumous degree. Perry mentioned that there is a policy that requires a 3.0 graduate GPA. Lockridge responded by stating there is a difference between the GPA scales of the A&M campus and the Law Center. A student’s GPA would require conversion. She added that Dows’ GPA would have

been higher if converted to the A&M GPA scale. Lindau made a motion to approve, Husseneder seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Old Business

LSU Online Discussion

Broussard reminded members of the LSU Online presentation at the next Graduate Council meeting. The presentation has a 20-minute time limit with time for a brief question and answer period. In the recent executive committee meeting, it was suggested that the Grad Council have a list of questions/topics for Provost Thackaberry to address. Interim Dean Richardson submitted a list of questions for members to review and take into consideration. Broussard read the questions aloud and then entertained comments from the floor. Several council members participated in the discussion. Members mentioned topics such as faculty member's role in developing content for courses, what party is responsible for maintaining the overall degree program, and determining the owner of the created content for courses. The discussion concluded with all members agreeing the following topics be addressed in the LSU Online presentation: admissions/admission standards, academic standards, content creation/monitoring, resources/compensation, and ownership.

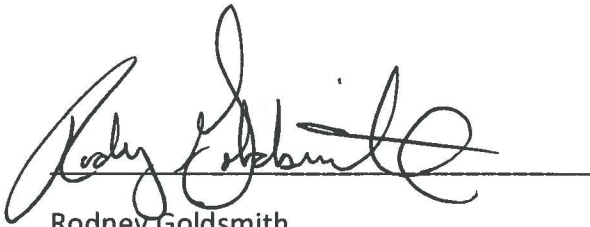
Standing Committee Reports

- Promotion & Tenure- Chance: No report.
- Awards- No report.
- Graduate Faculty - de Queiroz: No report.
- Graduate Council Webpage- Adams: No report.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 29, 2018 at 1:30 pm in 135 Thomas Boyd Hall.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:24 AM.

Recorded by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodney Goldsmith", written over a horizontal line.

Rodney Goldsmith
Assistant to the Dean

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Richardson", written over a horizontal line.

Malcolm Richardson
Interim Dean of the Graduate School