

**Graduate Council Minutes**  
**Mendenhall Student Center 221**  
**February 11, 2013**  
**2:00-4:00 PM**

GC Members Present: Bickley-Green, Cynthia; Cox, Kathy; Eble, Michelle; Franklin, Richard; Gares, Paul; Harer, John; Keiper, Brett; Lamson, Angela; Mott, Vivian; Ozan, Erol; Pokorny, Marie; Pressler, Jana; Rachlin, Sid; Ries, Heather; Reisch, John; Schwager, Paul; Skalko, Tom; Thompson, Bob; Vogelsong, Hans; Wheeler, Michael, and Terry West

GC Members Absent: Atkinson, Terry and Kirk St. Amant

Ex-Officio Members Present: Griffin, Linner; McFadden, Cheryl; Morehead, Andrew; Russoniello, Carmen; Sprague, Mark;

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Coddington, Charles and Anoush Terjanian

GC Guests: Tom McConnell

1. Call meeting to order  
2:06 PM

2. Approval of the 1/14/2013  
Minutes approved

3. Approval of the 1/6/2013 GCC minutes

Action Items

- Proposal of New Course(s): HIST 6855
- Proposal of New Course(s): ANTH 6855
- Proposal of New Course(s): MPH 720
- Proposal of New Course(s): ENGL 6065, 6195, 6345, 6375, 7721
- Revision of Existing Course(s): ENGL 5150, 5280
- Deletion of Existing Course(s): ENGL 5060, 5125, 5160, 5165, 5250, 5260, 5275, 5770, 7065
- Revision of Existing Degree(s): MA in English
- Revision of Existing Certificate(s): Certificate in Multicultural and Transitional Literatures
- Proposal of New Course(s): 7620, 8300, 8600
- Revision of Existing Course(s): 7615, 865, 8630, 8780
- Renumbering and Revision of Existing Course(s): ENGL 8601 (to 7600)
- Banking of Existing Course(s): ENGL 8605

- Title Revision of Existing Degree(s): PhD in Technical and Professional Discourse (to PhD in Rhetoric, Writing, and Professional Communication)
  - Revision of Existing Degree(s): PhD in Technical and Professional Discourse
4. Request for PhD student time extension (Michael Dingfelder, Physics)
- Requesting to approve 9 credits more than 10 years old toward graduation
  - Student enrolled in fall 2001
  - Student defended dissertation March 30, 2012 and his committee recommended he rewrite the dissertation by July
  - Student was not able to submit his dissertation fall semester 2012 but was able to submit to the Graduate School before census date of spring semester 2013
  - Student enrolled in one-hour dissertation course to be able to remain in the country
  - The Department of Physics is in support of this recommendation and it is their opinion the student has stayed current regarding course content
  - Department does not anticipate bringing forward similar requests
  - Approved
5. Thesis and Dissertation Graduate Catalog draft
- a. Thesis and Dissertation Faculty Manual Proposed Revision
- Added: “the Dean approves thesis and dissertations”
  - Peer institutions use language such as “approve” or “recommends for thesis/dissertation approval by the Dean of the Graduate School”
    - Discussion
  - Concerns regarding thesis/dissertation content disapproval by the Dean of the Graduate School
    - Questions regarding content should be directed toward thesis/desertion committee
    - The role of the Dean of the Graduate School includes overseeing the quality of programs and representative works from graduate matters at ECU
    - The thesis/dissertation committee should be consulted as part of the process when substantive concerns on the quality of the thesis arise
    - There is no specific language stating the thesis/dissertation committee should reconvene in such circumstances (the process articulated in the Faculty Manual is open-ended)
    - Procedure needed to return questionable thesis/dissertations back to student’s committee for review
  - Recommendation to allow the dean to recommend external members to thesis/dissertation committees for quality control purposes
    - Not favored by Master’s programs
  - Recommendation to change language from “approve” to “recommend” since the Board of Trustees has final approval

- Noted that graduation is “recommended” to Board of Governors, but the question here is language for approval of theses and dissertations, which the Board of Governors does not specifically approve
- Motion approved to return draft to the GCEC for further refinement and an outline of detailed procedures

6. Announcements

- Current ECU scholar and Honors student will be granted early assurance to the Occupational Therapy program
- 40 applications for the graduate mentor award have been submitted
  - Deadline is March 1, 2013

7. Meeting adjourned

2:49 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Tripp

DRAFT