Graduate Council Meeting Agenda
November 17th, 2021– 3:30-5:00 p.m.
ZOOM

x	Jerry McMurtry	x	Kristin Henrich (Library)	x	Grant Harley (COS)
x	Chris Ludwig (EHHS)	x	Pedram Rezamand (At-Large/CALS)		Steffen Werner (At-Large/CLASS)
x	Linda Chen (CBE)	x	Kelly Quinnett (CLASS)	x	Ata Zadehgol (ENGR)
	Dan Cronan (CAA)	x	Kerri Vierling (CNR/ENVS)	x	Seth Rose (GPSA)
x	Paul Hohenlohe (UWP)	x	Dan Strawn (CALS)		Alexander Blanco (GPSA)
x	Sarah Wu (At Large/ENGR)				

I. Minutes from October 13th, 2021
   a. Approved with two abstentions

II. Announcements
   a. Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards open for nominations- Due Jan 28th
      i. https://www.uidaho.edu/cogs/ui-awards
   b. UI 3MT competition on January 27th- submissions are due the week prior
      i. https://www.uidaho.edu/cogs/three-minute-thesis

III. New Business
   a. Curriculum items:
      i. M.S. Apparel, Textiles, and Design – Presented by Dr. Wahl
         1. https://nextcatalog.uidaho.edu/programadmin/?key=462
         2. There is currently no degree specific to this field, which makes it difficult to recruit.
         3. Dean McMurtry asked: we generally don't see these proposals without some content courses listed, so this proposal looks a bit different. Has it been vetted through dean pantejas office? Providing specific examples of courses is helpful because it ensures that you have the faculty needed to teach these courses.

            a. There is one tenure track faculty teaching the 501 and 502 courses. They will be adding an additional 500 level course that the new hire will be expected to teach.
            b. The department hasn't quite looked at other courses to fit into the 12 additional credits; they want students to have the flexibility to choose credits from any additional program (business, etc.).
            c. They felt like if they held off on submitting this request until they got the new hire it would drag the approval process out even further, and the request for the additional faculty member was put in a year ago.
            d. Members suggested:
               i. Usually even with new courses coming through departments will list these courses and get them approved at the same time that they get the program approved.
               ii. Look at who the partners across campus would be and let the deans and departments know that you hope to use these courses. This should occur before program approval.

   iii. The department may need to adjust the course levels allowed, if 400 level courses are allowed. There will be greater ability to use courses from other programs (like business) if the allowed course level is expanded.

  4. The department will go back and work on developing the course list more. Council agreed to send it back for further revision without moving the item to a vote.

ii. Statistics Academic Certificate – Presented by Dr. Abo

  1. https://nextcatalog.uidaho.edu/programadmin/?key=285

  2. There is an existing Statistics Academic Certificate program, but they want to change it to an online program. Most of the courses are available as engineering outreach courses and many students have already been getting this certificate as an online degree.

  3. Courses applied to this certificate will be noted as being available online and in person.

  4. Members asked: how will the engineering outreach fee structure apply? What proportion of courses have these outreach fees?

   a. All courses available online are engineering outreach courses and have an associated fee.

  5. Members asked: why is this being done through Engineering Outreach and not Stats? With Your current programming and online availability, should this certificate be offered through stats to avoid course fees?

   a. When the Stats department created this certificate, they didn't have the technology to deliver the classes online. Delivering courses through Engineering Outreach was the only option at the time.

   b. Stats is currently discussing how they can offer these online courses. They are hoping to develop these courses on their own so they don't have to use Engineering Outreach, but right now that is not an option. Stats faculty also spend a lot of time working with Engineering Outreach students, and housing the program in Engineering Outreach this helps balance the workload of Stats faculty.

  6. Approved unanimously

iii. Computer Sciences M.S. – Presented by Dr. Conte de Leon

  1. https://nextcatalog.uidaho.edu/programadmin/?key=71

  2. There are a few significant changes involved in this proposal.

   a. This proposal stemmed from a request from the Computer Science department because the catalog refers to a 599 (non-thesis research) course. There used to be a limitation on the number of non-thesis research credits. This was modified to a max of 6 credits last year, so based on those changes the department decided that they wanted to require a minimum of 3 credits of research so students who did the non-thesis option have some research experience.

   b. The second component applies to the Ph.D. program as well, this course (Computer science in cyber research methods) has been taught for the last few years. The department decided to make this course required for all masters and Ph.D. students.

      c. They have been offering these programs in Idaho Falls for many years and they want to make this clearer in the system.

      d. They have also been making several courses available online, so they wanted to formalize that the master's program is fully available online.

3. As of right now GC is okay with them using 580 and 599 for non-thesis research credits.

4. Approved unanimously

iv. Computer Sciences Ph.D. – Dr. Conte de Leon

    1. https://nextcatalog.uidaho.edu/programadmin/?key=72

    2. Previously it was advertised that no more than 50% of the program was available online. They aren't ready to say it can be completed fully online, but 50% or more can be completed remotely.

    3. This program is available in Idaho Falls

    4. They are also adding CS/CYB 570 as a required course.

      a. Computer Sciences has just over 50 active Ph.D. students- they estimate that making CS/CYB 570 required they will have a full class but don't expect additional workload.

    5. A few additional cosmetic edits were made as well to the program description.

    6. Approved unanimously

v. Bioinformatics and Computational Biology M.S.- Dr. Hohenlohe

    1. https://nextcatalog.uidaho.edu/programadmin/?key=395

    2. The proposed changes are essentially the same for the masters and Ph.D. programs.

    3. The catalog differed from what has been listed on the website and what has been common practice. The program requires a distribution of courses between biology and math/stats. The previous language was unclear and didn't specify subject areas. Language is being added to clarify this.

    4. The department also wants to remove the limit on credits that can be used for short workshops, as students can benefit from learning targeted skills and techniques in these workshops. More one-credit workshops are being offered now and we want to encourage the students to make use of these courses.

    5. The third proposed change is to remove the GRE requirement.

    6. Members asked: is there a COGS regulation that limits the number of workshop credits that can be allowed?

      a. There is a university-wide regulation that limits workshop credits to 3. We wouldn't be able to waive this for the program unless the university requirement changed. They can always take more, but only 3 can be counted on their study plan/towards their degree.

    7. Council will consider this proposal without the change to workshop credits. Council can always reconsider this and revote if workshops are more valuable.

    8. Approved unanimously

vi. Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Ph.D.- Dr. Hohenlohe

    1. https://nextcatalog.uidaho.edu/programadmin/?key=396

    2. This proposed change is the same idea as the master's program, they have just differed the number of credits slightly.

    3. Approved unanimously

    b. Credit Requirements for Full Time Students in Summer
   - i. This came to light when we were discussing the courses that international students have to take over the summer. If 9 credits are no longer required for full time status in the summer, this will help support international students arriving in the summer.
   - ii. The registrar's office supports this catalog change.
   - iii. Other institutions consider 6 credits full time over the summer.
   - iv. This doesn't require students to take credits in summer, it just changes the current requirement for full-time status in the summer session.
   - v. Members asked: How will RAs be affected?
     1. As long as RAs are registered for one credit, they are still good to go in the summer (they do not need to be enrolled full time over the summer).
   - vi. For international students, they are allowed up to 3 credits online. This change would make it a little easier to find courses that work and will help get these students here.
   - vii. This does not have any implications on financial aid- the minimum for financial aid is 5 credits, so they would still be eligible for loans.
   - viii. Approved with one abstention

IV. Old Business
    a. 4+1 program template update
   - i. This item is still moving forward with State Board. Meeting with them in December to propose it, then if passes it goes through it an approval process. We're waiting to develop the template until we talk to the State Board.

    b. Ed Specialist credit limits
   - i. This involves students getting a second Ed Specialist degree, which is only offered through EHHS.
   - ii. We are proposing that 12 credits can be counted between degrees (which are 60 credits total).
   - iii. Will wait to vote until our EHHS rep meets with Education Faculty and will revisit this item next month.

    c. Lowering the grad overload credit limit
   - i. Currently there is a 21 credit max in Fall/Spring and 15 in summer. There is a credit limit (before overload) of 16 in Fall/Spring and 12 in summer. We are considering changing the summer credit overload limit. As we were looking at the number of credits in the item about full-time summer status (item b) we noticed that this seemed a little out of the ordinary. We haven't talked to the Registrar about this yet, but wanted to ask Council if this is something we should pursue.
   - ii. Members asked: how many students take over 15 credits in the summer? Not many, most often this comes from in-service teachers. Master's in Athletic Training program also does 15 credits the first summer.
   - iii. Council agrees that we do not need to address this further- not moved forward.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:01