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Academic Policy Committee Report - January 7, 2016

Graduate Council

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APC Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2016

Attending: Maria Stehle, Shandra Forrest-Bank, Paul Gellert, Stephen Kania (ex officio), Jenny Onley (GSS Proxy), Eric Boder, Mary Albrecht (Interim Dean), Mehmet Aydeniz, Julie Bonom

Meeting began at 2:03pm.

Minutes from last meeting were previously approved electronically.

Proposal to create a waiver of continuous registration in dissertation hours for students completing internships.

- Dr. Stehle presented request from Jens Gregor regarding leave for students doing internships.
- Why do the internships happen after the students are taking 600?
- Some programs’ students are not prepared for the internship until they are that far along. Is this part of the education, or cheap labor for the industry?
- Some disciplines do internship after the hours of 600 are complete.
- Suggestion to have Jens Gregor come to next meeting to present.
- Thoughts about future of doctoral education and how to prepare students for careers other than replacing current faculty, and internships are probably a big part of that. There is a bigger discussion around this topic.
- Dr. Albrecht favors having a route to approve this kind of thing.
- Need to consider international students and their visa issues.
- Students that don’t return after the semester is up will lose leave status and have to reapply for admission.
- Jenny Onley has data on other universities in top 25: either they don’t require summer continuous enrollment or allow stopping the continuous enrollment for an internship.
- Someone from clinical concentration in psychology could also come to APC and speak...they do internships.
- Need to craft a proposed catalog revision of the current LoA policy.

Embargo of making dissertations publicly available online:

- Apparently, there are entities trolling for online dissertations and publishing them under different attribution.
- Publishers polled were unanimous that they will not publish a work that has been published online as a dissertation.
- Do publishers ever refuse to allow students to use published work in a dissertation?
- Should embargo be extended? How long? Currently, students can opt-in for a one-year embargo.
- Idea to have library staff/TRACE managers come and tell us how the embargo period is managed in the system.
- Need to have guidelines for faculty regarding these embargoes.
- Disciplinary differences are likely to be high regarding this issue.
- More information needs to be collected about this issue.

Academic probation:

- Students applying for graduation that are still on probation.
• Need to reorder the catalog instead of its current alphabetical by heading to make easier to find info policy info that goes together.
• Looked at the current catalog verbiage regarding probation.
• What is the cost of having the student apply and try? Ans: the cost of getting the diploma printed, but the student has to pay again every time he/she applies. Fees are $30 MS, $75 PhD.
• Still need more information about if other universities have policies against this.
• There is a way on the Registrar’s web site to calculate the GPA that will result following the upcoming semester.
• Need degree audit system for graduate students.
• Dr. Albrecht will ask to have a link for GPA calculator made available on the Grad School web site, and possibly linked to the application for graduation.
• Catalog might need some clarification regarding the probation/dismissal language.
• Graduation fees might be a deterrent to applying for graduation without certainty of success, if fees are high enough.
• Many students apply with incompletes remaining on their records.
• The application deadline is not enforced, so they will accept late applications for graduation.
• The application purpose is to know what students need to have their records evaluated to look for incompletes, etc.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:20 pm.