GRADUATE PROGRAM COUNCIL
End of the Year Council Report
2014-2015 Academic Year

Members

Arts & Communication	Angie Yoo (Co-chair)
Business	Rajiv Kashyap
Education	Michelle Gimenez-Hinkle
Human & Social Science	Deniz Yucel (Co-chair)
Science & Health	Kem Louie
Library	Susan Sabatino
Professional Staff	Nicholas Gramiccioni
Adjunct	Bob Koob
Administration	Dorothy Feola

Standing and Additional Charges, 2014-2015:

Two standing charges:

1. Review and recommend new graduate programs and the procedures for inaugurating, changing, or terminating graduate courses and programs.
2. Review and recommend new graduate programs, major changes in existing programs, and areas of expansion.

Two additional charges requested:

1. Discuss the "Online Integrity and Standards" policy with the Technology Council and the Graduate Policies Council and bring recommendations to the Senate.
2. Consider the creation of a university-wide thesis policy.

The members of the Graduate Program Council continued working diligently to address the Senate's charges this year. A brief summary of the Council's accomplishments follows. Please see the approved meeting minutes of the council for details.

Meetings:

Six meetings were held for following dates:

September 15, October 6, November 17, December 8, February 23 and May 4.

Summary of Accomplishments:

Programs Reviewed:

New Program:

- Certificate Program: New 21 credit certificate program in Special Education with a concentration in autism spectrum disorders and other severe disorders.
- Master's in Public Health (Concentration – Health Communication)

Change in Existing Program:

- MFA in Creative and Professional Writing – Admission requirement change
- MA in Professional Communication: Curriculum change
- Master's in Counseling: Curriculum change
- Master's in Nursing: Admission requirement change

Online Integrity and Standards

- Shared our recommendations for the Online Program Policy developed by Graduate Policy Council.
- Developed Online Program Best Practice Checklist based on the "Five Pillar" Model suggested in *Policies and Procedure for Developing and Maintaining the Integrity of Online Programs* prepared by Faculty Senate Graduate Policy Council. The draft of checklist has shared with Graduate Policy Council and Technology Council for their inputs.

University-wide Thesis Policy

- Visited the library and had a quick workshop about the Thesis Process (Jane Bambrick and Leah Marie Zamora)
- Question on if there should be minimum university standards for the masters from WPU because of departmental variations.
- This charge needs to be discussed with Graduate Program Policy.

Priorities for 2015-2016:

- Review and recommend new graduate programs, major changes in existing programs, and areas of expansion.

- Work on "Online Integrity and Standards" for ensuring academic integrity in graduate programs that are offered completely online and make recommendations to the Senate.
- Present the council suggestions for Academic Change Proposal Form to the Faculty Senate

Submitted by: Kyung-Hyan (Angie) Yoo and Deniz Yucel (co-chairs).