

Rhode Island College Graduate Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 6th, 2017
Roberts Hall, Kelley Board Room

Members Present: Caroline Caswell, Elizabeth Holtzman, Paul Jacques, Cherise Lee, Marie Lynch, Chris Marco (chair), Diane Martel, Leo Pinheiro, Magdalena Ostas, Leslie Schuster (non-voting), Marie Wilks

Guests: Alexis Rogel (minutes taker)

- I. Call to Order: 10:09
- II. Approve minutes from September meeting (Martel, Wilks)
Action: Approved: 6 Abstain: 2
- III. Report of Chair
 - a. Still working to fix website issues after transition to SharePoint. Efforts will include Josh Hamilton and Ed Pacheco.
 - b. Provost Joshua Hamilton will be attending next month's meeting to discuss future directions for graduate studies.
- IV. Report of Dean of Graduate Studies
 - a. Graduate Studies Open House notification went out to program directors. Registration began last month. Trying to get the notice on the main webpage.
 - b. Announcement of dissemination of \$30,000 scholarships should be going out next week. As it stands, this is a one-time only award. Full-time students (9+ credits) will receive \$1500 for full academic year, part-time students \$750. It is currently both merit and need based. A more structured process is being developed.
 - c. \$75,000 available for what has been termed "Graduate Student Support," being provided via Student Success. There are four main areas to request support: Student Engagement & Events, Professional Development, Academic Support, Outreach. So far funds have been awarded to both faculty and student organizations creating events or resources.
 - d. New Provost wants to create a School of Graduate Studies to better promote and provide more resources. Provost Hamilton will be addressing this in his visit next month.
- V. Old Business
 - a. Proposal # 1718- 005 Policy revision on Number of allowable transfer credits (Wilks, Jacques). *Action:* Approve = 7 (1 member had stepped out and did not vote.)
 - b. Policy on taking courses outside Plan of Study on credit/no credit basis.

According to T. Hardmon, there is nothing that would prevent the student from retaking the course for credit; although she did not recall seeing that happen. Changing the policy would benefit students who want to explore other courses outside their Plan of Study but who do not want the grade to impact their GPA. Also, students who are nearing the end of their program may not have courses in their POS offered full-time, and sometimes take extra courses to remain full-time. Because this would affect Chapter 3, it would require rewriting the policy and sending to to CAPP. The Executive Committee will work on drafting language.

VI. New Business

a. Curriculum Proposals

- i. Bundle and approve 1718-001 through 1718-004 (Caswell, Holtzman)
Proposal changes terminology from "capstone" to "DNP project."
Action: Approved unanimously.

b. Policies regarding thesis

- i. Proposal # 1718-006 : (Jacques, Caswell)

Proposal is to (a) revise requirements for 3rd reader on thesis committee. New language specifies “outside the department” rather than requiring “outside the discipline,” and (b) Delete the 30-day tentative notice of thesis defense. A 10-day notice is already required which should be sufficient.

Action: Approved unanimously

VII. Other Business

- a. Department Supervision of Graduate Program: Discussion involved the responsibilities of graduate directors/graduate coordinators.

Meeting adjourned: 11:55 am (Martel, Wilks)