

## Rhode Island College Graduate Committee Minutes

March 1st, 2019

Kelley Board Room

Members Present: Deb Britt, Monica Darcy (Chair), Ying Hui-Michael, Jenn Meade, Leo Pinheiro, Marie Wilks, Joe Zornado

Members not present: Elizabeth Holtzman, Leslie Schuster (Non-voting)

Guests for Proposals: Magda Ostas (English)

Other Guests: Alexis Gorton-Rogel (Minutes)

- I. Call to order: 10:02
- II. Approve minutes from prior meeting (Meade, Britt)

*Action: Approved, 2 abstentions*

### III. Report of Chair

1. Undergraduate Curriculum committee has created Ad Hoc committees to look at course sizes. They have asked if GC would be interested in participating.
  - i. Committee member suggests considering how low enrollment courses are impacting faculty members due to the smaller class demand for graduate courses. Chair requests that ideas and thoughts on this issue be brought together for next executive committee meeting.

### IV. Report of Dean of Graduate Studies

1. Consideration of offering more than 1 Open House event
2. 58 GA positions have been approved for 2019-2020 year.
3. Working with IT to review possibility of electronic POS/Independent Study forms.
4. Met with representative for Salesforce, Customer Relations management system to improve communications with students.
5. Request to consider adding information in Grad Policy Manual regarding participation in Commencement and number of remaining credit to be completed. Suggestion is that the remaining 9 credits cannot be thesis credits.
6. Working on Meet the Graduates website with profiles of recent alum and current students.

### V. Discussion items

- i. Graduate recruitment, diversity, and inclusion - meeting will be adjourned at 11:30 to attend information sharing session with Kimberly Dumpson

### VI. Old business

### VII. New Business

1. Proposals
  - i. 1819\_23 catalog BA MA English early admission and update, 1819\_25 ENGL 500 course creation, 1819\_45 ENGL 501 new course title (Motion to Bundle/Approve: Jacques, Hui-Michaels)
    1. 1819\_25: Due to the intensive work load in the English program, there is often a limitation of three courses a student can handle in one semester.

This limits the student's ability to participate in a 5 year BA/MA Program. ENG 500 is built to prepare students for a life within the English field, while not building in more intensive reading or writing projects. It would be an S/U grading scale while staying consistent with 3 credits.

2. 1819\_\_45: Renaming ENGL 501 from Introduction to Graduate Studies to a content course on methods and critique
3. 1819\_23: Program curriculum adjustment building on 4xx level courses.

*Action: Approved Unanimously*

ii.1819\_46 ENGL delete GRE req (Motion to Approve: Britt, Meade)

1. Proposes to replace GRE with a writing sample for both creative writing and literature program. As it stands, only Creative Writing requires a writing sample. Program director M. Ostas looked at peer institutions in a 50 mile radius and could not find a similar program who required the GRE.

*Action: Approved Unanimously*

2. Approve proposed revisions for Bachelors/Masters dual degree policy to bring to CAPP (Motion: Meade, Britt)
  - i. Built to be clarification for language that appears in various sections and academic policies in CAPP.
  - ii. Committee member questions if there is a cut off for students applying for a BA/MA program. Policy has been built to be at the discretion of the individual programs.

*Action: Approved Unanimously*

3. Approve proposed policy for second degree policy for graduate programs (Meade, Britt)
  - i. Current policy is that you can only utilize credits that have not been applied to a terminal degree. Instead of viewing credits from previous degrees as "transfers," the policy instead builds guidelines for second-degree graduate students. It is in line with regional institutions.
  - ii. Committee Member points out that may cause issues with Doctorate programs who have students take 500-level courses. Committee chair shares that the policy has been built to allow discretion of individual programs.
  - iii. Committee Member points out issue with language in rational - "1/5 in first program" leads to confusion over which program the 1/5th is for. Language will be clarified.

*Action: Approved Unanimously*

VIII. Other business

IX. Adjournment: 11:30