

Graduate Academic Council 2010 – 2011

Minutes of the Council meeting for November 19, 2010
Approved by the Council on January 24, 2011

In attendance: J. Baronner (staff), J. Bartow (staff), F. Bolton (staff), S. Commuri,
N. Fahrenkopf, C. Fox, L. Fuller, L. Kranich (Chair), W. Lanford,
H. Miller, K. Williams

Unable to attend: J. Aini, [Robert Beach](#), S. Chittur, T. Groves, S. Kazanas, F. Leiva,
T. Timmons

Guests: Professor Ray Bromley, Office of International Education, Professor Sanjay
Goel, Information Technology Management and Informatics, and Professor
Michael Sattinger (Economics)

1. Minutes

Minutes from 10/26 and 10/29 GAC meetings were approved. One member
abstained from voting on the 10/26 minutes since they were absent from the meeting.

2. Dean's report – K. Williams

The SUNY Professional Science Master's Program Fall Workshop was held on
Monday, November 15th. The Sloan Foundation has funded SUNY again but with
smaller grants. Dean Williams will send grant information to the Graduate Directors.

He has forwarded corrections from PhD program directors to NRC, but has not heard
back as to whether or not NRC will act on them.

3. Chair's report –L. Kranich

The comments from GAC regarding the President's deactivation proposal of 10/1
were forwarded to the Senate Chair on 11/11. These were then incorporated into a
larger document containing those of other councils as well. The Senate response to
the President contained comments only; resolutions were to be considered separately.

The Senate met on Monday, 11/15. The compilation of comments on deactivation by
the councils was approved by the Senate as were three resolutions: one, a SUNY-
wide resolution opposing the deactivation of programs; another SUNY-wide
resolution on consultation with governance; and a third by LLC which also opposed
the deactivation. A fourth resolution by CPCA was similar to that of LLC and was
hence withdrawn. It was pointed out that it is very rare for the SUNY-wide Senate to
comment on matters pertaining to a particular campus. In addition, the Department of
English distributed a letter expressing its opposition to the President's proposal.

Finally, Senate Chair Eric Lifshin called for nominations for an ad hoc committee to
consider additional revenue streams.

4. Committee Reports

CAAS – H. Miller, Chair

The Committee met November 9th to review case GACCAAS 2010-11-1 wherein a former student requested reinstatement to a graduate program. The CAAS voted 4-0-0 that the student be afforded conditional reinstatement to the program. Conditions are the re-take of all three core courses in which she obtained grades below B with performance at the B or better level in each course, else the academic dismissal is restored. Further, no additional course enrollments in the program are to be permitted unless and until the conditions are satisfied. The Council voted to accept the Committee's report with a 7-1-0 vote.

Another case is pending and will be reviewed at a future meeting.

CC&I – T. Groves, Chair

Florie Bolton provided the report since Chair Groves was unable to attend today's GAC's meeting. Two items were discussed.

Item #1:

The School of Education Department of Educational & Counseling Psychology submitted a request to discontinue the professional teaching certification track within the Educational Psychology and Methodology MS program. Spring 2008 was when the last students in the professional teaching certification track graduated. Other educational programs are in place for certification purposes.

Item #2:

The College of Arts and Sciences Department of Geography and Planning requested a revision to the Master of Regional Planning program. The MRP will be changed from a four track to three track program with the elimination of the Urban and Regional Information Systems track. A Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis Certificate is in place for students wishing to pursue knowledge previously covered in the fourth track.

The Council approved both proposals with a 7-0-0 vote.

CEPP – S. Commuri, Chair

Nothing to report.

5. Old Business

School of Business proposal for Graduate Certificate in Information Security

Professor Ray Bromley, Office of International Education, and Professor Sanjay Goel, Information Technology Management and Informatics, attended today's meeting. GAC had initially considered the proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Information Security at its meeting on 9/24/2010. At that time, Council members had a number of questions about the proposal and recommendations for changes. These have been incorporated into a revised version of the proposal.

In discussing the revised proposal, a member inquired if the loss of the Russian programs and faculty would impact the Certificate program. Another member mentioned that the availability of resources is still in question. The proposal calls for the program to be funded by grants or external funding. Professor Goel stated that he believes there will be adequate external resources to fund the program. He also noted that the University library resources are adequate but use will be in accordance with copyright laws.

An additional question was raised concerning the language of instruction. The terms of the Department of Education grant seem to specify that some courses will be taught in Russian. Professor Goel indicated that any online courses would be offered with Russian or English subtitles, as needed. He also distinguished between terms of the grant, which would pertain to a particular funding source, versus terms of the academic program, which could be offered in any event with alternative funding.

There are two intended audiences for the program: NYS employees and international students. NYS employees will not be subject to language requirements. Russian students will be checked to ensure they are competent in English. He commented that it is easier to have Russian students come here than for US students to go there since the former receive considerable training in English. US students are expected to have some background in Russian, and they will receive intensive Russian instruction.

The Chair mentioned that the Council's previous concerns have been adequately addressed with the updated proposal. Grant stipulations would affect the issue of applying grant funds to the program but would not affect the academic programming.

The Council approved the proposal by a vote of 8-0-0. Jon Bartow will prepare the bill for submission to the Senate.

6. New Business

Department of Economics Proposal for Combined BS-MA in Economics

Professor Michael Sattinger of the Department of Economics attended today's GAC meeting. Chair Kranich recused himself from consideration of the proposal since he

is the Director of the MA Program in Economics. Dean Williams volunteered to run this portion of the meeting.

The BS program has existed for some time and has been strengthened over the last several years. The MA program has also been in place for many years. A forecasting specialization has been added. The combined degree program would enable students to complete the two degrees in 10 versus 11 semesters. For this reason, the new program should be marketable.

Many of our own students advance to the Masters program after obtaining their bachelors degree. Since many of the upper level Economics courses are shared resource courses, these students are often forced to look for additional courses because they have already taken the 400-level course as an undergraduate and are thus ineligible to take the 500-level course. For these students, the combined program would help to resolve this problem.

It was requested that the sentence "The minor requirements may be combined with the major requirements but the total may not exceed 66 graduation credits." be removed from page 4 right column.

Students transferring into the program who would wish to apply graduate credits toward either the BS or MA components would be required to prove they have completed appropriate 500 or 600 level courses.

The proposal requires that students have completed 56 credits, including the core courses, before they can apply and no earlier than the first semester of their junior year. A member suggested that an application deadline be included in the proposal.

The last line states 9 credits counted for the BS degree, but the proposal calls for applying up to 12 graduate credits toward the undergraduate degree.

The Graduate Bulletin will require updating to include the new program.

The proposal will be sent to Senate Executive Committee to forward to UPPC for consideration. Professor Sattinger will make the necessary corrections and forward the updated version to Jon Bartow. The proposed starting date for the program would be Fall 2011. The proposal will require State registration.

The Council voted to approve the proposal, with the specified modifications, by a vote of 6-0-1.

END OF GAC 11/19/2010 MINUTES
