Executive Committee of The Graduate School

Date: Wednesday, November 9th, 2022, from 3:00pm-5:00pm
Location: WebEx Conference
Subject: Executive Committee (EC) of The Graduate School meeting minutes

Attendees: Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Mary Bernstein (Ex-Officio), Kristin Bott, Jack Corcoran (Ex-Officio, Recording Secretary), David Embrick, Kent Holsinger (Ex-Officio, Chair), Barbara Kream (Ex-Officio), D. Betsy McCoach, Rosa Raudales

Absent: Mitchell Green, Etan Markus, Judith Thorpe

Guests: Emma Bojinova, Chinmoy Ghosh, Erika Skoe

1. The meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order at 3:03p.m.

2. Presentation and vote for past meeting minutes: The minutes from the previous EC meeting were approved unanimously.

3. No new announcements.

   a. Sponsoring Department: Agriculture Resource Economics
   b. Sponsoring School/College: CAHNR
   c. Presenter: Emma Bojinova

5. Presented for consideration and voting – *Creation of a New Course “Teaching Practicum in Applied Economics” (CAR ID: 22-15587)* MS in Applied Economics
   a. Sponsoring Department: Agriculture Resource Economics
   b. Sponsoring School/College: CAHNR
   c. Presenter: Emma Bojinova

The above CAR requests were jointly presented for consideration and voting.
Emma Bojinova from the Department of Agriculture Resources Economics discussed the addition of a new course titled, “Effective Teaching Strategies and Course Design in Applied Economics.” The purpose of this course is to prepare students for future instructing experience. This course, currently being taught as a variable topic, includes subject matter commonly experienced as an instructor, such as creating a thorough syllabus, outlining clear course objectives, tackling issues of academic integrity, handling students with disabilities, and more. This course would only be open to a selected handful of students and graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory system.

In addition to her previous request, Emma Bojinova discussed the addition of a new course titled, “Teaching Practicum in Applied Economics.” The purpose of this follow-up course is to provide students with hands-on teaching experience. They would be assigned to one class, likely during the summer or when a class cannot be covered by faculty. Students would gain and build upon abilities needed to be an efficient and skilled instructor and give them practice for potential future roles in instruction after graduation. Once again, this course would only be open to a selected handful of students and graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory system.

Mary Anne Amalaradjou asks for clarification regarding the differing amounts of credits that are listed. Emma Bojinova states that the variability derives from the option for the student to customize based on the weekly meeting time, as well as the one-on-one meetings held to prepare for the instruction of the course. Additionally, Rosa Raudales notes the lack of a minimum standard for the student to meet the satisfactory grade. It is noted to the committee, as well as Emma Bojinova that, if approved, the final syllabus of the course will have to highlight a baseline for the student to meet the satisfactory grade.

A motion to approve was made by D. Betsy McCoach and seconded by Kristin Bott. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

6. Presented for consideration and voting – Modify/Change existing degree or certificate program (22-BERK-SJDCKD) MS in Financial Risk Management Program
   a. Sponsoring Department: Finance
   b. Sponsoring School/College: School of Business
   c. Presenter: Chinmoy Ghosh

Chinmoy Ghosh from the Department of Finance in the School of Business presents the modification to the MS in Financial Risk Management Program. This change would see some of the graduate courses be offered to students in four-plus-one track as undergraduates, instead of being exempt from taking them as graduates due to being in this program. This change is being presented to provide clarity to both students and faculty and avoid instances of mass exemption in the future. This change has already been passed at the departmental level.

There are no questions from the committee. A motion to approve was made by D. Betsy McCoach and seconded by David Embrick. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

7. Presented for consideration and voting – Modify/Change existing degree or certificate program (22-MILL-NKJ24K) Cognitive Science Program
   a. Sponsoring Department: IBACS
b. Sponsoring School/College: The Graduate School

c. Presenter: Erika Skoe

Erika Skoe from the Cognitive Science Program discusses changing the language of the program in the Graduate Catalog to make it clearer and more concise. This is a cosmetic change being requested in order to streamline the program description to indicate one required course, while listing the other supplemental courses on the program’s individual website.

There are no questions from the committee. A motion to approve was made by Rosa Raudales and seconded by D. Betsy McCoach. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

8. Presented for reprise and voting – Add/Create new degree or certificate program (20-BURT-DR7612) Emerging Women's Leadership Graduate Certificate

   The previous Executive Committee meeting discussed changing some of the language in the GPAR to make sure that it is inclusive of people of all genders. After conversing with Laura Burton and outlining the language changes to her, she and her colleagues approved the changes.

   A motion to approve was made by Mary Anne Amalaradjou and seconded by David Embrick. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

9. Discussion Items
   a. Recent Supreme Court cases regarding affirmative action will likely reach a verdict that will lead to exclusion of race from holistic admissions to higher education institutions. There will be further discussion surrounding this topic at the January meeting of the Graduate Faculty Council, which all Executive Committee members are invited to attend.

   b. A reminder of the Marth Award, in which all nominations are due on November 21st, 2022.

10. The meeting of the Executive Committee was adjourned at 3:28 p.m. The next meeting is set to take place on January 18th, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.