YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 29, 2021**

**TEAMS**

**4:00 p.m.**

Present: Valerie O’Dell, Chair, Patrick Bateman, Ewelina Boczkowska, Christopher Bellas, Lauren Cummins, Kendra Fowler, Douglas Genna, J. Paul Louth, Tomi Ovaska, Virgil Solomon, Sal Sanders, Angie Urmson Jeffries, Linda Hulburt-Blosser

Excused: Tomi Ovaska, Jake Protivnak,

GSAC New Student Representatives:

Gabrielle E. Jones and Theresa Gorospe (alternate), WCBA

Humra Ahsan, STEM

Adam T. Klein, BCHHS

Tiffany Spisak, BCLASSE

Joseph Spurio, CCCA

1. The August/September 2021 meeting minutes were sent via email to Graduate Council members. However, due to the late email notification to graduate council members, the minutes will be approved at a later date.
2. Category 1 Graduate Faculty

STEM

Jonathan Caguiat, Chemical, and Biological Sciences

Carl Johnston, Chemical and Biological Sciences

Stefania Panaitof, Chemical and Biological Sciences

A motion was made to approve the STEM faculty applications for the Category 1 membership. The applications were reviewed and recommended by the College Graduate Studies Committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

BCLASSE

Brian Bonhomme, Department of Humanities (History)

A motion was made to approve the BCHHS faculty application for the Category 1 membership. The application was reviewed and recommended by the College Graduate Studies Committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

1. Committee Chair reports
   1. Admission and Appeals Committee Chair: J. Paul Louth

Nothing to report at this time.

* 1. Graduate Curriculum Chair: Virgil Solomon

Nothing to report at this time.

* 1. Exceptions Chair: Sal Sanders

The Graduate Council Exceptions Committee unanimously approved an exception to the admission requirement for letters of reference and GRE for admission to the MS in Environmental Science program as requested by Dr. Jeff Dick. This exception will permit the applicant to be admitted provisionally to the MS in Environmental Science program without submitting GRE scores or letters of reference/recommendation.

The Graduate Council Exceptions Committee unanimously approved an exception to the admission requirement for GRE scores for admission to the MA in History program as requested by Dr. Bonhomme. This exception will permit the applicant to be admitted to the MS in History program without submitting GRE scores.

* 1. Grievance Chair: Christopher Bellas

Nothing to report at this time.

* 1. GSAC New Student Representatives: Gabrielle E. Jones, Joseph Spurio

No Report

1. Revising Graduate Faculty Category 1P - (1P- Perpetual Category)

This discussion revolves around the pros and cons of the need for two separate categories: Category 1 or Category 1P.

Sal has previously commented that we currently rely on the chairperson and dean’s approval in the graduate faculty approval process to do this. If we can verify that faculty have fulfilled the criteria, without department chair/dean involvement we will streamline the form and be able to approve through the Graduate College as suggested. All categories must meet the Higher Learning Commission guidelines.

Patrick Bateman has stated that his intention when proposing the 1P Category was that the graduate faculty status seemed to be a lot of paperwork, even if only every 5 years, He did not see the purpose for it. As such, for faculty who met certain criteria (e.g., a history with the status) and are not actively overseeing student research (those only teaching) there was little value in a review process. Why not just grant those people permanent status?

A discussion followed with other graduate council members sharing their comments and concerns about the change. The application form will be revised to include suggestions provided by the graduate council members. A motion was presented for clarification of the IP description.

The motion states that faculty in Category 1P would have the same privileges and responsibilities as Category 1 faculty members but would **not** be required to go through the reviews and would not need to justify any current research for the last 5 years. The motion was seconded by Valerie O’Dell and Virgil Solomon. The motion passed with one opposition vote.

1. Discussion of establishing a time limit requirement for Certificates

## **Master’s Degree**

All coursework, including transfer credits, offered in fulfillment of the mini­mum credit-hour requirement for the degree, all comprehensive exams, and thesis (if required**) must have been taken within the six years immediately preceding the date on which the last requirement is completed.**

## **Doctoral Degree**

All post master’s coursework, including transfer credit, **must be taken within an 11 period.**

Currently, we do not have a time limit set for Certificates. Our goal is to keep track of students in our master’s programs and to encourage students to complete their degrees promptly. Also, there have been over time drastic changes in technology, teaching concepts, and content areas.

Following a period of discussion, it was the consensus that the current guideline will remain the same without a time limit and allow programs to set a timeline on their Certificates. If any new issues appear, this discussion can be revisited.

1. Input on Strategic Plan – Sal Sanders

Sal received a lot of responses regarding the information sent out to all the graduate faculty. Two faculty members have volunteered to form a committee to help integrate the suggestions into the Strategic Plan for the Graduate College. Sal invited any council members to join this committee. When a draft has been completed, it will be presented to the graduate council members to accept or reject it at that time.

1. The form required for new Distance Education programs was sent via email.

This item was not discussed at this meeting.

1. CCGS Annual Report - Sal Sanders

See Team folder for review of this document (48 pages) Standardize format required to be submitted every year. This year's form is to be completed is especially long asking about program review, an account of any programs discontinued or stopped admission to.

<https://ysuprod.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/GraduateCouncil/EVMNM_xp6GhFi6_bgi_vWbQBMCYbYpD7XXwBY5ODST3g-Q?e=SIexJR>

1. Dean Sanders’s comments

Sal thanked graduate council members for their input and support on the many important issues and discussions concerning the College of Graduate Studies.

He also appreciated the CSAC students who are attending today’s meeting and he is looking forward to working with them in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm. The next meeting is October 27, 2021.

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Linda Hulburt Blosser**

**Linda Hulburt-Blosser, Academic Ops Specialist2**

**The College of Graduate Studies, Coffelt Hall**

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**Attachments**

**Exceptions Committee Report to Graduate Council for September 2021**

Committee Membership:

Dr. Sal Sanders, Chairperson

Dr. Virgil Solomon

Dr. Valerie O’Dell

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Report submitted by Sal Sanders on 9/22/21.

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