**YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting date: February 28, 2024 @ 4:00 pm**

**Coffelt Hall and Webex**

Attending: Douglas Genna, Chair, Patrick J. Bateman, Lauren Cummins, Kendra Fowler, Valerie O’Dell Jake Protivnak, Sal Sanders, Constantin Virgil Solomon, Angie Urmson Jeffries, Vincent Hepola (student representative) Bill Johnson

Excused: Christopher Bellas, Joseph Carucci, J. Paul Louth, Carlie Geyer (student representative)

Douglas Genna called the Graduate Council meeting to order at 4:00 PM

1. The January 2024 Graduate Council meeting minutes were approved via evote. (10 Approve, 0 Approve with edit, 0 Abstain)
2. The January 2024 Curriculum Report was approved via evote. (10 Approve, 0 Approve with edit, 0 Abstain)
3. The Graduate Council members introduced themselves, their department and role on campus.
4. President Johnson opened is comments with the successes in the Graduate College. He stated the Graduate College is an area on campus experiencing growth. He shared that in reviewing YSU’s strategic plan he noted the desire for YSU to be an anchor university in Northeastern Ohio. He does not feel this is not good enough. Our desire should be for YSU to be a place that students desire to come for the entire continuum of their education- from certificates, associate degrees, bachelor degrees through graduate/doctoral degrees. YSU needs to be cutting edge and recruit faculty from all over the world. YSU continues to do good things and he would like to help us continue the great things that are happening here. President Johnson would like to see us expand our brand and market reach. He would like to see us focus on military, as graduate education is essential for promotion. Our online options make us a great option because courses can be completed from anywhere. He also stated that collaboration with a podiatry school, similar to what we currently have with NEOMED, would be a great alternative for students who do not want to pursue medical school. President Johnson said he would like to see us working within the limits of our accreditation to do what we can do help students get across their academic finish line. For example, many of our graduate programs have removed the requirement of a GRE for admission. He would also like to see prerequisites removed to give students a chance to show their level of ability in the required courses. This allows for timely completion of degree. Many of our graduate programs have created non-thesis tracks to give students options when completing degree requirements. President Johnson said that he wants to support faculty and would also like to hear suggestions from them on how to improve.

Doug Genna inquired about the collaboration with military and if the focus would be online programs. President Johnson confirmed that this is the easiest option for those working in the military with an interest in pursuing higher education.

Patrick J. Bateman asked if we had the contacts to market to the military population. President Johnson said they are currently gathering these contacts.

Virgil Solomon said that we have an amazing PhD program and that students in this program can be utilized as instructors of record. This allows the PhD students to receive 2 years of funding for their education and YSU to have access to qualified instructors. This model has been used successfully elsewhere but has not been utilized at YSU. President Johnson said that he would like to look into this further as it sounds like a good option.

Jake Protivnak shared that he likes President Johnson’s idea of YSU being out front for other colleges to aspire. However, he said there are challenges such as financial and lack of shared vision. He said that we need to define what being out-front means as it may differ between programs; On-line options work for some, faculty research in others and it is student experience the program can offer that make others market leaders. President Johnson stated he understands the factors change based on program.

The group shared concerns about once cutting-edge equipment that is now in need of repair as well as buildings that need maintained. President Johnson stated that YSU is a business that must make a profit. For a while, we have just been keeping up. He wants to see us get to the top by recruiting students and cutting-edge faculty. He reiterated that his door is always open to faculty. His desire is to align with faculty and provide a place where faculty can be the best at what they do.

1. Anish Khadka, GA for the Graduate College, described his project to create short videos to highlight student/faculty research and alumni successes. He shared the benefits of this format and a plan for the location of the videos on the Graduate College website. Anish stated that the videos will be visually engaging and accessible to a larger audience. President Johnson supported this project and stated that we need to focus on telling our story.

Due to time constraints, it was decided that the remainder of the items would be reported virtually. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05.

Committee Chair reports

* 1. Admission and Appeals Committee Report

The Admission and Appeals Committee heard two appeals of the Graduate College Scholarship. The first student appealed the discontinuation of the scholarship due to required prerequisite courses that resulted in less graduate hours enrolled. The second student appealed the discontinuation of the scholarship due a low GPA as the result of a medical condition. Both of these appeals of scholarship were approved and the scholarships were reinstated.

Report submitted by Paul Louth 2/26/2024

* 1. Graduate Curriculum Chair Report. (Link for approval via evote will be sent to Council.)

Graduate Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

February 12-February 26, 2024

Email Meeting

Members Participating: Virgil Solomon (chair), Daniel Ayana, Christopher Bellas, Joseph Carucci, M. Kathleen Cripe, Ying Wang, Judin Balella (student representative), Colleen Richardson (student representative)

Agenda: February 12, 2024 circulation memo

New Business:

Requested Action:

***The following items were approved:***

Master of Music in Music Composition. Admission suspended.

Master of Music in Jazz Studies. Admission suspended.

Master of Science in Engineering. Engineering Management. Change in degree requirements.

ENST 6910 Environmental Management Systems Standards. Course deactivation. (Informational item).

HHS 6962 Health Care Policy. The purpose of the course is to give students the skills necessary to understand all aspects of health and health care especially those related to Health Care policy and delivery. It will examine the supply of and demand for health services, and the analysis of health

care systems and current, previous and potential future legislation relevant to health care. Topics will include Medicare, Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, the Older Americans Act, and trends in health insurance coverage. Prereq. Admission to MHHS or OMBA. 3 s.h. (Change to course title and description.)

OMBA 6923 Corporate Financial Management. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

OMBA 6940 Leadership. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

OMBA 6941 Managing Organizational Talent. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

OMBA 6942 Essentials of Leadership Coaching. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

OMBA 6975 Business Policy and Strategy. Change of prerequisite. (Informational Item.)

PHYT 8901 Clinical Decision Making 1. Decision-making process for clinical management of uncomplicated cases in practice patterns. Emphasis on posture and movement assessment, safety, body mechanics, and monitoring physiological status. The course includes integrated hands on practice into lectures and class sessions. Prereq.: None. (Change in course description, prerequisite and course hours.) 6 s.h.

* 1. Exceptions Chair: Sal Sanders. Nothing to report.
  2. Grievance Chair: Christopher Bellas Nothing to report.
  3. GSAC- Vincent Hepola

Diversity of Scholarship event.

* Members reviewed abstracts from 14 submitted proposals.
* Rated proposals based on importance to field, creativity, and uniqueness amongst other proposals.
* Angie and Dr. Sanders used ratings to narrow proposals to 5.
* Event takes place Tuesday, March 19th at 5:30pm in Kilcawley Center.

Graduate commencement student speaker.

* Members are currently deliberating on a student speaker.
* Will report recommendation by March 8th.

Culture shock and resources for International Students.

* Discussed resources available for students struggling with transition to an American university (i.e. workshops and orientations).
* Availability isn’t really an issue, but the messaging isn’t reaching enough of these students.
* Promoting these resources is necessary to assist their acclimation to university and cultural standards.
* Otherwise, connections between international and domestic students suffer greatly.

Other topics.

* Expanding individual program marketing via social media (i.e. Instagram take-overs by just the accounting and finance school).
* Title IX training for GSAC members (If not already completed).

Commencement – Graduate College – Video comments from Sal Sanders

College Credit Plus Teacher Credentialing Grant: Policy Implications- Video comments from Sal Sanders

Removal of GPA requirement to maintain scholarship eligibility-Video comments from Sal Sanders