**YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting date: April 24, 2024 @ 4:00 pm**

**TEAMS**

Present: Douglas Genna, Chair, Patrick Bateman, Joseph Carucci, Paul Louth, Valerie O’Dell, Sal Sanders, Constantin Virgil Solomon, Christopher Bellas, Lauren Cummins, Jake Protivnak, Angie Urmson Jeffries

Excused: Kendra Fowler, Vince Hepola (student representative) Carlie Geyer (student representative)

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

1. March 2024 Graduate Council meeting minutes evote approved. (8 approved)
2. Committee Chair reports
   1. Admission and Appeals Committee Chair: J. Paul Louth. No appeals to report.
   2. Graduate Curriculum Chair: Virgil Solomon- Curriculum Report April 22, 2024

The Graduate Curriculum Committee reviewed the April 2024 items and approved all of the items.

* 1. Exceptions Chair: Sal Sanders

The members of the Exceptions Committee unanimously approved an exception to admission requirements allowing admission to the Doctor of Physical Therapy program without the need to take the GRE.

The applicant had completed an MBA suggesting continued success at the graduate level. The DPT admissions committee supported the exception. Additionally, the GRE requirement will no longer be an admission requirement.

* 1. Grievance Chair: Christopher Bellas No grievances to report.
  2. GSAC- Vincent Hepola STEM: Carlie Geyer CCCA No items to report.

1. Patrick Bateman proposed new graduate certificate with a required completion GPA of 2.65. This would provide an opportunity to acquire gainful employment and to pursue an MBA.

Patrick explained that they would like to use this certificate to allow potential students with a lower GPA to take coursework at YSU and if they are successful enter the MBA program. However if they have lower GPA and can not be admitted to the MBA program they could be offered this certificate a the lower GPA. Instead of declining admission to people, we want to give people at least an opportunity to demonstrate their preparedness or not by doing something in the program.

DISCUSSION:

Virgil asked how the certificate would benefit the student compared with degree for MBA. There is the potential that this collection of courses would be beneficial, particularly if they're, new to a management position or they are trying to move into a position.

Angie noted that the student will be listed as “not in good standing” on their transcript if their GPA is at a 2.65 – but will then receive a certificate. A concern with financial aid was raised. In the category of gainful employment Kevin Ball will need informed as he needs to report to the state. This certificate would join nursing and education for employment.

Doug asked if there is a minimum number of courses for a certificate already in the Grad College policy. There is no policy/restriction. Christopher Bellas shared criteria for Criminal Justice certificates. Sal mentioned that we should not go below three courses. With regards to the GPA/grade requirement, students can retake courses to replace them

Patrick responded to Jake that the student could receive both MBA and certificate at the same time. The requirements are also embedded in the organizational leadership track of the MBA, which would enable the student to proceed with MBA. Jake discussed the GPA falling below a 3.0, that the student should know that they haven’t met the grad requirement. Anticipation of the impact of students in that situation will be a handful. If they are strong students, they will stay for the MBA. If they are weak students, then they will receive a certificate for the money that was spent.

Sal posed another consideration regarding GPA to go through the exceptions committee and pre-approve anybody that receives two B’s and a C, then they are already approved. We’ll just run them through. We will still need to customize the GPA procedure.

Valerie posed a difference between the certificate and being admitted provisionally for MBA. Patrick’s concern was if admitted provisionally to MBA, then the students cannot be restricted to what they end up taking. From a systems standpoint, the only provision is the GPA.

Currently, the minimum requirement for entry to the Grad College is an undergraduate degree and minimum 2.7 GPA. Other Colleges have exceptions to GPA already. Some are as low as 2.5.

AP currently is not part of the contract for a stand alone certificate. If the addition is made, it would need to be part of the contract. Financially it would not make sense to separate as marketing is already in place.

**MOTION: Allow 2.65 to receive certificate if permitted by Financial and Records - motion passes**

NOTED: Patrick will pull back if it’s not going with gainful employment or Records requires a 3.0-good standing.

Requirements: Certificate in Organizational Leadership

The 3 course, 9-credit hour certificate is achieved by successfully completing

| Course List | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **COURSE** | **TITLE** | **S.H.** |
| [OMBA 6940](https://nextcatalog.ysu.edu/search/?P=OMBA%206940) | Leadership | 3 |
| [OMBA 6941](https://nextcatalog.ysu.edu/search/?P=OMBA%206941) | Managing Organizational Talent | 3 |
| [OMBA 6942](https://nextcatalog.ysu.edu/search/?P=OMBA%206942) | Essentials of Leadership Coaching | 3 |
| Total Semester Hours | | 9 |

# Certificate Requirements

To earn the Leadership Certificate, students must complete the three required courses with a cumulative GPA of 2.65 or higher. Additionally, students must earn a grade of B or better in at least two of the three courses and no grade of D or F in any course.

Note, for students interested in admission into the OMBA Program through the Performance-based Admission Pathway (PAP), the three required courses in the Leadership Certificate must be completed with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Additionally, students must earn a grade of B or better in at least two of the three courses and no grade of D or F in any course.

1. Dean’s Comments – **Assistantships:** funding was approved and allocation spreadsheets have already gone to the colleges. Future timeline on approvals has been developed. **Dissertations:** Announcements should be made public and published within your college. Copy Sal on all postings. **Nursing:** First graduates from the Doctor of Nursing Practice and Nursing Anesthesia Program. A new milestone for the university. **Grad College Open Positions:** Graduate Coordinator has not posted. Academic Operations Specialist Position 1 has posted. **Xerox:** Working with them to automate our application process is still moving forward.
2. Comments/Information from Council Members – all members are invited to share information or request input

Doug Genna: 4 + 1 programs –students have to declare the 4 + 1 designation and cannot remain in a bachelor’s program. Chemistry now has four more program codes. Advisor’s need to reach out to students to inform of the procedure. Michele Schaper in the Registrar can assist/correct.

Congratulations to Valerie O’Dell upon her retirement. Her successful contributions within the university, as faculty, committee member, advisor, and program director of the nursing programs to mention a few. Wendy Thomas will be taking some of her responsibilities.

Meeting adjourned 4:51 PM

Submitted by: Jennifer Cambouris