

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL

December 7, 2009

Minutes

PRESENT: K. Klomparens (GS), S. Juengel (CAL), K. Renn (ED), A. Lovgren (COGS), G. Burgett-Thrasher (MUS), A. Segall (ED), J. Lindquist (CAL), T. Jeitschko (CSS), E. Outslay (BUS), N. Jackson (CNS), D. Bronstein (CANR), J. Wang (CNS), S. Nicley (COGS), C. Radcliffe (ENG), D. Solomon (CHM), S. Dilley (BUS), C. Corley (CSS - for Nalla), R. Warner (CANR – for G. Lang), M. Lawrence (LAW), M. Chavez (CAS), D. Long (CNS)

GUESTS: R. Schwartz (CNS), R. Caldwell (CSS), T. Sommerhill (CSS), S. Lacy (CAS), M. Sedlak (ED), S. Ferrari (Emotional Impairment, ED), Troy Mariage (Special Education, ED), M. Frye (CAL), A. Larabee (American Studies, given voice), L. Good (Retailing, given voice)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 9, 2009 were approved.

MINUTES

1. Approval of Agenda.
2. Approval of November 9, 2009 Minutes. (Attachment)
3. Remarks from the UGC Chair. (Outslay)

Requests for moratoria are made as early in the academic year as possible to be fair to potential students applying to graduate programs. Requests are made to the Provost and then are routed to the appropriate committees by ECAC. UGC is advisory to the Provost on moratorium requests...a list of issues and concerns/comments are provided to the Provost from the UGC chair following the UGC meeting. Note: requests for program disbandment may or may not follow later in the academic year.

In addition to the standard operating procedures approved by University Graduate Council in September 2009 (see attached), the following process is designed to permit the maximum opportunity for UGC members to ask questions related to the moratoria requests on this agenda. The UGC meeting is not a forum for open debate between members of a college/department. It is an opportunity for UGC members to consider all of the relevant issues and to ask questions in order to formulate advice for the Provost.

MOTION (requested): to approve the following process to effectively and efficiently consider input on each moratorium request on this agenda:

As with all program requests that come to UGC, the individual/unit making the request is invited to briefly introduce the request, provide rationale/criteria used to support the request, evidence of past and future consultation, and then answer UGC member questions.

Given the number of moratorium requests on the December 7, 2009 agenda, **UGC requests this information IN WRITING (1-2 page summary maximum) PRIOR to the UGC meeting—no later than 5PM Friday, December 4, 2009** so it can be distributed to UGC members over the weekend. Please send document to kklompar@msu.edu for distribution to UGC. The requesting individuals/unit then will make **brief** comments and answer questions from UGC members at the meeting.

Any individuals who wish to provide other/additional information regarding the request for a moratorium, one representative individual per request may speak individually or on behalf of a group. UGC members will decide if any additional individuals will be provided time at the meeting. All individuals must stay within the total time frame noted below and be preceded by a written list of points. All information/points must be made **IN WRITING (1-2 page summary maximum) PRIOR to the UGC meeting—no later than 5PM Friday, December 4, 2009** so they can be distributed to UGC members over the weekend. Please send the document to kklompar@msu.edu for distribution to UGC and identify the representative to answer questions from UGC members.

Guests will only be permitted to speak on a request IF WRITTEN documentation is provided by FRIDAY, DEC 4, 2009.

Q&A and discussion of each item will be limited to 10 minutes, starting with the input/Q&A from the individual making the request. Unfinished items (by loss of quorum) will be moved to the January UGC meeting.

Motion made and seconded, unanimous vote to follow the process for considering moratoria.

4. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Science degree in Computational Chemistry**.
 - a. No demand for the program. Will move to discontinue Spring 2010. Not good for a Masters level class.
5. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Science degree in Industrial Microbiology**.
 - a. Low enrollments. Chair talking with Kellogg Food – may be interested in a modified program. 15-20 students would be “sustainable” number. What was process for consultation? Chair spoke with faculty and then to Dean.
 - b. Curriculum relies on other courses that will stay.
6. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Science degree in Zoo and Aquarium Management**.
 - a. Limited enrollments. Better at undergraduate level. Depends on a single faculty member – so not sustainable. Needs to partner with other programs on campus to be viable. Or more online to reach professionals. Moratorium is a way to strongly encourage discussion and change in programs.

- b. Some concern that UGC asked to be part of a process that “pressures” faculty to change their programs.
- 7. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Arts degree in Family Studies**.
 - a. Already approved to have a name change: Family Studies and Human Development. They want to transform their curriculum. Want to combine Family Studies with Community Services Masters program and change curriculum overall.
 - b. Family studies not as modern as similar curriculum nationally.
- 8. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Arts degree in Marriage and Family Therapy**.
 - a. Keep the PhD in this area – long-term strategic plan of department to have faculty-capacity for PhD – their priority. Students are employable with AM.
- 9. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Arts degree in History-Secondary School Teaching**.
 - a. Was in moratorium once before.
 - b. Low enrollments. Is a service MA for secondary teachers, but not easy to recruit working teachers to come to campus. Not a core focus or strength of History Department. Worry about MA students in PhD seminars. May work with TE for possible online program.
 - c. Programs do absorb faculty time – which is a resource. It does bring money into the department – so did have some faculty interest.
- 10. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science: Global Applications**.
 - a. 1998 organized to serve mid-career Korean professionals in Labor and Industrial Relations, SSW or Urban Planning. Faculty no longer interested in this special program.
 - b. No students since 2005.
 - c. The Korean company now more interested in SPDC.
 - d. ISP consultation: no grants associated with this program
- 11. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Science degree in Retailing**.
 - a. College 16 meetings – metrics to evaluate programs, to focus on college priorities.
 - b. 2004 Retailing joined CAS, and wanted it to be integrated with college programs. It is not integrated. Not a priority program for CAS.
 - c. Undergrad program also considered for moratorium and discontinuation.
 - d. Linda Good given voice to speak. She provided a written statement.
 - e. Questions:
 - i. Roles and reassignment for faculty? Individual discussions are confidential.
 - f. Program ranks high nationally – publications
 - g. ALL CAS programs compared – also rank high
- 12. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Doctor of Philosophy degree Retailing**.

- a. See item 11 for notes
13. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Deaf Education Emphasis Area** and the **Emotional Impairment Emphasis Area** within the **Master of Arts degree in Special Education**.
 - a. Emotional Impairment will now focus on autism – spectrum disorders. Faculty and student interest in this and a national focus. State standards also want a greater focus on this as a learning disability area.
 - b. Deaf education – no current MA students
 - c. Market – not many jobs for students
 - d. The college level MA – will accommodate other areas such as deaf culture, etc
 - e. A new program in “Impaired Education” (includes autism) will come to UGC next year.
 14. * Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Arts degree in Theatre**.
 - a. Faculty want to focus on MFA (stage design and acting performance)
 - b. Fewer employment opportunities for MA.
 15. *Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Doctor of Philosophy degree in American Studies**.
 - a. Ann Larrabee given voice
 - b. American Studies associated with WRAC. WRAC shifted towards digital writing. Four WEAC/American Studies faculty want to move English, so less of a connection to WRAC.
 - c. American Studies does not have its own faculty lines. It is interdisciplinary, so faculty come from other departments
 - d. American Studies does not have its own GA lines to support PhD students. Uses those dollars from other programs, which are not in a position to share those GA lines as they are being cut, too.
 - e. Not moving to discontinue yet, may want to look at repositioning it (in English or elsewhere)
 - f. Seems to be highly ranked program.
 - g. Worry is that if continue to admit, won't have resources for the new students. And not knowing if there really will be a program or not. Fairness to student issue a concern to the Dean of CAL
 - h. Questions:
 - i. Q: One of MSU responsibilities in interdisciplinary scholarship American Studies does a good job, so why doesn't MSU support it? If American Studies moves, will their interdisciplinary nature change – not for the good?
 - ii. A: MSU not well set-up for interdisciplinary programs. American Studies is widely diverse – getting sustained commitment of faculty (who are borrowed from departments) is difficult. Only a small group of faculty serve on guidance committees and govern the program. Core of 3 courses – coherent program for each student
 - i. Ann Larabee – asks for a vote from UGC – not to have moratorium. No process in place to re-invent itself. Will admit fewer students and have less

- money. 17 fields are represented in American studies, so are unique and identifiable at MSU
 - j. Two new areas: 1) Comparative global studies and 2) Community Engagement
 - k. Question: Some student dissertations seem very broad – couldn't they be in another program?
 - l. Question: GA question – IAH cut – and makes decisions on which grad programs get the TAs. Some for WRAC. So, American Studies is vulnerable more so than a department. UM has a program. Big Ten has 7 programs
 - m. Question – Timing of the moratorium – is there really an option to revise it or find a home for it? See earlier comments – no faculty lines, WRAC changing its focus, 4 faculty want to leave WRAC, no TA lines, faculty haven't come up with a viable future plan
 - n. The American Studies program is not the same as it was 5 years ago. Been around since 1960's.
16. *Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Master of Arts degree in American Studies**.
- a. See item 15 for notes
17. UGC General Discussion
- a. May impact other programs whose students take some of the courses in American studies (CEPSE)
 - b. Options for all the moratorium requests –
 - i. Straw vote or “sense of UGC” or not an actual vote or “recommendation” or “reservations
 - c. Concerned about #5, #6, #15, #16
 - i. Use of UGC to pressure faculty – not comfortable with this role. Better to use dean persuasion. But some need to be pushed.
 - d. Concerned about students admitted into a program that is in disarray or at least not set-up to ensure a firm future.
 - e. Kim Wilcox encouraged to think about interdisciplinary graduate programs and how they are funded. Look at this outside the department structure. And concern that the budget is forcing us backwards to an old model of a University – solely disciplines (esp. American Studies) as a trigger
18. Adjournment at 5:20 pm