

**Graduate Academic Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes for October 25, 2010  
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

Voting members present: Ken Abramowicz, Donie Bret-Harte (audio), Lara Dehn, Regine Hock, Anita Hughes, Orion Lawlor, Sue Renes, Jen Schmidt, Amber Thomas (audio).

Ex-officio members present: Larry Duffy.

Guests: Jayne Harvie.

The meeting called to order at 9:33.

1. The proposed meeting agenda was approved without any modification.
2. Unfinished business from 9-27-10 meeting.

Trial MSL F694 and Trial BIOL F694 Update: BIOL F694 / MSL F694 - Communicating Science - Laura Conner has recombined the two courses back into one course with the approval of SFOS and CNSM. The course is no longer repeatable for credit. GAAC approved this revised trial course without any further modification.

3. Discussion of new GAAC proposals.

#17-GNC: FISH F628 - Physiological Ecology of Fishes - Orion acknowledged the changes the Curriculum Review Committee made to the course prerequisites. Lara noted that Animal Physiology may be a more appropriate prerequisite for this particular course. Laura will ask that the syllabus be revised to change the pre-requisites to FISH 301 or BIOL 310 (Animal Physiology) and ask to add "graduate standing" as a pre-requisite for the 600-level part and GAAC will review this again next meeting.

#16-GCCh.: FISH F626 (stacked as F426) - Behavioral Ecology of Fishes – GAAC approved the course with minor modifications (changing the pre-requisite to FISH 301 or BIOL 271), and adding "graduate standing" as a pre-requisite for the 600-level part.

#19-GNC: ATM F666 - Atmospheric Remote Sensing – The syllabus was vague with respect to the policy related to plagiarism and the timing of the readings and dates. The syllabus was also missing information related to make-up exams, late homework assignments, and class attendance. The consensus was that the syllabus should be revised to include missing information. Concern was also expressed about the impacts on other programs. Donie will follow up on these concerns for the next meeting.

#22-GNC: MSL F612 - Early Life Histories of Marine Invertebrates – GAAC approved this course with minor modifications to be requested for its description. Jen will follow up to request that these be made.

24-GNC: FISH F631 - Data Analysis in Community Ecology - Amber will follow up on adding some missing syllabus elements (specifically a statement about plagiarism). Lara noted a department concern with the prerequisite of STAT F401 for fisheries courses. She will follow up on this for the next committee meeting.

## 6. Discussion topics.

### Graduate Grading Policy

The +/- issue with the "B" grade was discussed. The issue parallels the +/- issues with "C" at the undergraduate level. A "B" must be earned for courses in a student's graduate study plan. Otherwise a course only counts toward number of credits and the GPA. There was consensus for the committee to address the +/- issue with a motion about grading policy in the near future.

### Courses being Cross-listed

Larry commented on the common issues with cross-listing which include which department counts the enrollment and gets the tuition revenue. On Banner reports the enrollment may appear artificially low for a department because of cross-listing with another department; but in many cases, enrollment is actually increased for a course due to cross-listing.

### New GAAC Proposals

It was noted that GAAC has as a set of degree revisions for the Special Education program coming up and a new Master's program in Political Science. Sue Renes and Amber Thomas volunteered to work on the Special Ed revisions, with Sue taking the lead. Ken agreed to take the lead on the new Master's program in Political Science.

The next meeting is November 15, 9:30-10:30 AM at the Joint Conference Room, 341 Rasmuson Library.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 10:30.

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