

GAAC Meeting Minutes for 1/23/13

Attending: Donie Bret-Harte, Jayne Harvie, Cheng fu Chen, Laura Bender, John Yarie, Lillian Misel, Libby Eddy, Chung-san Ng, Elisabeth Nadin, Mike Daku

GAAC Agenda 1/23/13

- I. Approval of minutes from last meeting (11/12/12)
- II. Update on motions submitted to Faculty Senate Administrative committee
 - a. Motion on Master's degree with thesis or project
 - b. Resolution on archival of Master's projects
 - c. Motion on catalog wording to require 3 credits in last semester of degree
- III. 698 vs 699 credits (request from registrar's office)
- IV. Request to add checkboxes for safety training, hazmat shipping, and importation of international soil samples to Graduate Study Plan (request from Provost's office)
- V. Progress on course approvals
- VI. New assignments

Minutes:

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

An update was given on motions.

- I. Revised Motion on distinguishing Master's degrees with thesis vs project was passed.
- II. The issue of requiring maintaining enrollment in three credits in last semester was discussed. It was agreed that requiring only one credit in the last semester if the thesis has already been defended might be more reasonable. It was pointed out that in the Construction management program, most classes are only 1 credit. UAF don't require this enrollment for undergrads, and UAA doesn't require it either. Graduate tuition of \$783/credit non-resident, \$383/credit resident, can be a lot if graduate students don't have funding. It was pointed out that requiring at least one credit would ensure that they show up as a student on the books, which is important for statistics. Further, requiring one credit would provide an incentive to finish, but be less punitive than before

The modified motion was passed.

III we discussed the 698 vs 699 designation in Banner. The Office of the Registrar and Admissions would like to change the designation in Banner. This will not affect any policies.

Lily explained the problem – approximately 25 students file for advancement to candidacy with 698 instead of 699 credits; have to file petitions to change

Currently 698 listed as research

Proposal: change 698 instead to non-thesis research/project in Banner and course registration screens to match what is in the catalog

Laura Bender – 698 should never be used by Ph.D. students, but a faculty member would like to be able to grade thesis credits (699); could propose a 697 class

GAAC supports the change in course title for 698 to non-thesis research/project. Present to Admin Committee; Donie will present to Admin Committee at their next meeting

- IV. Hazardous materials and soil shipping, and a requirement for safety training.
Provost suggest that this should be on the Graduate Study Plan.

Discussion:

Could be addressed in the graduate orientation.

Concern was expressed that the form will be too long

Seems that responsibility lies with faculty to educate their students

50-50; could we modify existing IRB form?

Would it be appropriate for a memo to come from Provost to faculty to inform their students, rather than adding to a burgeoning form? No decisions were taken; this will be discussed at a future meeting.