

## GAAC: Graduate Academic Advisory Committee of the UAF Faculty Senate

2011-08-31 Meeting Minutes

Present:

Voting: Orion Lawlor, Vincent Cee, Elisabeth Nadin, Chung-Sang Ng, Sue Renes

Ex officio: Timothy Bartholomaus, Anita Hughes, Laura Bender, Larry Duffy

Visitors: Roy Roehl, Jane Monahan, Anupma Prakash

Excused: Donie Bret-Harte, Lara Horstmann-Dehn

Absent: Xiong Zhang

Orion Lawlor was elected committee chair. The chair pledges that henceforth, no GAAC meeting will last more than one hour.

Regarding the M. Ed. in Instructional Technology Innovation ([GAAC 100-108](#)), a GAAC subcommittee consisting of Vincent, Tim, Orion, and Sue agreed to review these courses for approval. This overlaps with the spring subcommittee of Orion, Sue, and Anupma.

- ED 650, with the latest updated August 24 syllabus, was approved.

Regarding 115-GNC/CHEM 671, Receptor Pharmacology, the issues identified in GAAC's [April 25 meeting](#) appear to still be outstanding. Donie will follow up with the instructor.

Regarding 117-GNC/ME 643, Nanofluids, the syllabus was already updated May 15 and the course has already been approved.

Regarding [GAAC 61-92](#), the dozens of one credit courses and new certificate in construction management that Bob Perkins is putting together, a subcommittee consisting of Elisabeth, Chung-Sang, and Xiong will review these. There was some discussion of whether these should be 500 level courses, but BOR regulation R10.04.090.F.(3) states: “500-599: Courses with these numbers are designed to provide continuing education for professionals at a post-baccalaureate level. These courses are not applicable to university degree or certificate program requirements, are not interchangeable with credit courses, even by petition, and may not be delivered simultaneously (stacked) with credit courses of similar content.”

Regarding UAF's rather strict definition of “program completion” for international students, currently as soon as 10 days after the thesis defense. After a GAAC resolution approved by the full faculty senate in April, a new policy has been formulated and is awaiting review at the provost's office. Under the proposed policy, “The official program completion date for these students [enrolled only in thesis or research credits] is two months from the defense date or the approval date on the Report of Thesis/Dissertation Defense form or the Report of Project Defense form when signed by the academic department chair, whichever is earlier. This provides time for students to make recommended corrections and/or revisions to the document following the defense and prior to the 60-day grace period commencing after the program completion date. Exceptions will be considered in which a defense has been held prematurely due to circumstances beyond students' control.” GAAC welcomes this more reasonable policy.