

Graduate Academic and Advisory Committee Minutes for October 28, 2015

Attending: Mike Castellini, Mitchell Reed, Daryl Farmer, Laura Bender, Mike Daku, John Yarie, Don Hampton, Donie Bret-Harte, Sean McGee

I. Minutes from our meeting of 10/14/15 were passed

II. Updates from the graduate school. In response to the graduate school's request for more outside reviewers, schools and departments responded positively with lists of outside reviewers, and things are working well. Sean McGee asked if there were any shortages in particular areas. The graduate school could use more reviewers from CRCO and School of Management. Laura Bender indicated that the graduate school can always use more outside reviewers.

Mike Castellini indicated that there are many concerns about Title IX education and compliance with respect to graduate students. The graduate school wants to ensure that there is help for individual cases and appropriate training for graduate students. He feels that the canned products that are available for undergraduate students are not appropriate for graduate students. A graduate student-specific module (Haven) will be tested. The "Green Dot" program will apply to everyone; Keith Mallard is leading the charge to initiate this, and will get in touch with departments.

The Center for Global Change graduate student research fellowship program has been transferred from IARC to the graduate school. (Mike indicated that this is a fiscal decision, and was not initiated by the grad school). Regardless, the program is up and running now, and the call for this year's competition has come out.

There is no new update regarding graduate student health insurance for UAF. Mike indicated that the University of Montana gave up on supplying insurance, and now requires their students to buy insurance on the exchanges (they gave more money to their graduate students). Laura Bender clarified that students in Juneau can use facilities there, they do not have to use UAF facilities or purchase their own insurance on the exchanges. Sean indicated that graduate students at UAF are considering unionizing in order to get health insurance. Mike indicated that graduate students are already unionized in Montana (without health insurance), while faculty are not unionized. Mike agreed to provide some numbers on health insurance to GAAC before December, when he will make a presentation to the full Faculty Senate.

Laura Bender indicated that Juan Goula has left the graduate school, and Shelly Bauman will take his place.

III. Updates on current assignments. GAAC discussed and passed the following course proposals and program changes:

- **1-Trial:** Trial Course: [BIOL / WLF F694 - Decision Analysis for Conservation](#), passed pending clarification of the grading scale
- Carryforward: **25-GNP: Graduate Certificate in Resilience and Adaptation**, pending the addition of one paragraph from Larry's email (Mike Daku will confirm with Jayne when this is received)

- **8-GNC:** New Course: [CHEM F686 - Chemical Research Mentoring](#), passed pending two minor corrections: expand student learning outcomes, delete a duplicate set of instructional methods (Mike will confirm with Jayne when this is done)
- **7-GPCh.:** Program Change: [MS and PhD - Atmospheric Sciences](#)
- **12-GPDr.:** **PROGRAM DELETION:** [Master of Electrical Engineering](#)
- **17-GPCh.:** Program Change: **MS and PhD - Geology**

IV. New assignments were made

V. Our next meeting will be on November 11 at 3 pm; Donie will send an email to confirm.