

Graduate Faculty Council (GFC)
May 17, 2016
2:30 to 4 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Present: Walt Horton, Nona Hose, Julie Aultman, Susan Bruce, Alex Galazyuk, Paul Hartung, Denise Inman, Amy Lee, Fayez Safadi and Yanqiao Zhang

Dr. Walter Horton called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with some general announcements. He shared that commencement is Saturday, May 21, 2016 and Dr. Julie Aultman will be the gonfalonier for COGS. Fourteen students will be receiving their advanced degrees, eight or nine of them will be at commencement. Earlier this spring, eight students received their bioethics certificates – they will be recognized in the Commencement program.

There has been some discussion around restructuring CAPP. This topic is still very early in the discussion stage. Questions around 1 CAPP vs 2 CAPPs; do we need a COGS CAPP and where would it fit? A plan should be in place by summer 2017 when the accreditation reviewers return.

A motion was made by Paul Hartung to approve the minutes from the GFC meeting on March 29, 2016. The motion was seconded by Yanqiao Zhang and the minutes were approved.

Dr. Charles Taylor addressed the GFC regarding the exploration of expanding international programs. There are several new programs coming through the pipeline, many of which will involve the COGS. Offering international programs at NEOMED was a suggestion that came out of the university's Efficiency and Value Committee in 2015. As a result, the university's GPS Committee chaired by Maria Shimer worked with Kent State University and conducted a SWAT analysis to determine the feasibility of bringing an international program to NEOMED. The findings of the analysis were brought to the Leadership Team in November of 2015.

Having an international program would provide NEOMED the ability to independently admit students to our programs; expand current visitor programs and manage them; provide study abroad opportunities; and internationalize the campus. Kent State University has agreed to work with NEOMED to share resources that are needed to be able to move forward.

The university will apply for a J1 designation. There are many factors required to be able to do that, and all have been met except hiring a designated person to oversee the program. The president gave permission to craft the job description and post it. Phone screenings of 8-9 candidates were completed last week. The finalists will be brought in for a more extensive interview in June.

It could take as long as 2 years to get the program up and running. The goal is to be able to admit students by fall 2018.

Dr. Walt Horton presented a new course for COGS titled System Biology: Omics Technologies. Dr. Kasumov is not available to present the course – there is nothing in place that states the course director

is required to present the course. Upon reviewing the documentation provided by Dr. Kasumov, what are the thoughts of the GFC regarding it?

Dr. Paul Hartung stated that COM and COP have curriculum committees to review courses, perhaps COGS would go to this down the road. Dr. Horton stated that the GFC with all of the program directors as members serves as a curriculum committee for the COGS. Dr. Denise Inman stated that each program has its own “curriculum committee” that reviews courses before they get to the GFC for approval.

Dr. Amy Lee stated she thought a syllabus template had been discussed at one point. Dr. Julie Aultman agreed and stated she has used it. Dr. Horton stated the syllabus template or guidelines needs to continue to be standardized and asked if the course director should always be present to present their courses. While this would be difficult for some, they could arrange to call in.

Dr. Denise Inman stated that the course being considered is an elective hands on course for IPM students, giving them an opportunity to learn cutting edge things – student would be running data and learning fundamentals of data analysis. An IRB is not required. Items of concern include what does active “participation look” like and how will it be evaluated; is there a minimum enrollment requirement; who pays for the hands-on training piece; will IACUC need to be involved?

The vote of approval for this course will be tabled to the next GFC meeting and Dr. Inman will discuss the GFC’s concerns regarding the course with Dr. Kasumov.

Dr. Denise Inman presented the final draft of the COGS Teaching Assistant policy. Edits made to the policy are as follows:

- Removed mention of Research Assistants from the policy
- Formalizing the award of TAs to IPM students beginning in the fall. They will receive a tuition scholarship in exchange for their TA. There are five available for doctoral students only.
- All new students in programs (after first year) faculty will pay half of the student’s stipend and the IPM program will pay the other half.

Dr. Alex Galazyuk stated that he doesn’t want TA/Faculty to complete because of different policies. Dr. Inman stated that all IPM students are required to have a TA.

Dr. Julie Aultman made a motion to approve the policy. Dr. Fayez Safadi seconded the motion and the policy was approved.

Closing comment from Dr. Julie Aultman: FYI – there will be 14 bioethics students entering the program in the fall!

The meeting was adjourned.