

Graduate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2023  
MEETING LOCATION: Odum Library 1480

Present: Becky da Cruz, John Lairsey, Debra Gresham, Ann Greenfield, Dixie Haggard, Zhong (Beibei) Lin, Lenese Colson, Kelly Davidson, Michelle Ritter, Arrington Stoll, Md Ruhul Amin, Lynn Crump, Chris Downing, Matt Grant, Mitch Lockhart, Connie Porcaro

Proxy: Dixie Haggard for Fred Knowles, Mitch Lockhart for Keith Lee.

Guests: Kat Noll, Jayleen Gant, Rebecca Petrella, Crystal Marshall, and Darli DeVane

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Becky da Cruz at 2:03 pm.

Minutes from September 21, 2023 were approved. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Mitch Lockhart seconded. Motion passed: 17 approved - 0 opposed – 0 abstained

## **College of Business Administration**

### **Department of Accounting**

*Request for revised Catalog copy (catalog):* Master of Accountancy- To reflect the goals and objectives agreed on during an accounting advisory board meeting. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Michelle Ritter seconded. Motion passed: 17 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

*Request for revised Course (catalog):* MBA 7850- Students are currently allowed to take the course without the pre-requisite. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Michelle Ritter seconded. Motion passed: 17 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

*Request for Deactivate course (catalog):* MBA 7820 Insurance and Risk Management, MBA 7830 Financial Management in Healthcare, MBA 7860 Healthcare Operations Management, MBA 7870 Healthcare Strategic Leadership-Underlying program was terminated. Dixie Haggard motioned to approve. Michelle Ritter seconded. Motion passed: 17 approved – 0 opposed – 0 abstained.

### **Sub/Committee Reports**

- **Graduate Student Success** –Chris Downing No report
- **Doctoral Program Sub-Committee**- No Update
- **Graduate Appeals**-No update
- **Graduate Faculty Scholarship**-Met on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 14 Faculty were approved for Scholarship Funds.
- **Graduate Faculty Membership**-Met on October 5<sup>th</sup> 12 Faculty were approved for membership, 1 was asked to reapply next fall.

### **Other Business/Topics from the floor**

- **Draft Grade replacement Policy**- After discussion on several provisions of the policy, Dr. da Cruz will update the draft with the requested changes and send it out for an electronic vote. On October 24, voting was complete. The committee voted to approve with: 17 approved – 1 opposed – 0 abstained.
- **Degree works for Grad Programs**- Degree Works can be used for their Grad programs of study. Program coordinators can reach out to Karen Shepard to scribe Degree Works for their programs.
- **ACS-Writing & SPSS assistance** - The Academic Support Center works with grad students on writing skills, SPSS, and graduate test scores such as the GRE.

- **Graduate Admissions Update-** Grad Admissions is meeting weekly to make audits to the slate system seeing what improvements can be made. November will also be a waiver free month.
- **University Council Plus: Graduate Scrum Report-** The Grad Scrum report was submitted to the Cabinet. There were many good suggestions and ideas put forward. The report included things that can be achieved in the next couple of years as well a longer term to achieve Vision 2030.
- **Accelerated (4+1) program language-** The language in the catalog needs to be revised for undergrad students who want to take a 4+1 in a different discipline. Dr. da Cruz will work on the language and bring it to the Committee for review at a later date.
- **Dismissal/Deficiency-Dissertation/Thesis report** was shared with the committee. The report provided data from 2017 through the summer 2023. Three reports showed how many dissertations were completed and how many students are dismissed each semester and discussed whether there are ways to keep students on track with Graduation.
- **Possible raise of graduation fee (\$25 to \$50 or \$60) next year-** The commencement ceremony is very expensive and the budget cannot fund the entire cost. To offset the cost, a request to increase the graduation fee beginning next year is likely.
- **Full Grad Faculty Application-** Request that forms sent to the Grad School is a “copy Only” for Darli on the DocuSign.
- **Graduate Assistant Update-** Applications for competitive GAs are being reviewed by the committee which will meet November 1<sup>st</sup>. Faculty/Staff will be notified if they were awarded a competitive GA by the end of November.
- **AGS & SGA Updates-** Kat Noll, VP for AGS, reported that there will be a box setup in the Blazer pantry for donations that will go to the Cancer Center. The next AGS program will be Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5PM. Dr. da Cruz will be on hand to talk about Graduation. AGS plans to do a de-stress program and give a de-stress basket full of goodies away for the November meeting.
- **Items from the Floor-** No items were discussed

Motion make to adjourn at 3:30 pm

Next AC Meeting: November 9, 2023

Next GEC Meeting: November 16, 2023

X *Darli DeVane*

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Darli DeVane  
Administrative Coordinator

X *Becky K. da Cruz*

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Dr. Becky da Cruz, Associate Provost  
for Graduate Studies & Research