

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
November 10, 2021
Yates 102

In Attendance: Jason Clemensen, Mark Diacopoulos, Jonathan Dresner, Shirley Drew, Kevin Elliott, Tatiana Goris, Jennifer Harris, Michelle Hudiburg, Ananda Jayawardhana, Janice Jewett, Cebrail Karayigit, Trina Larery, Sang Lee, Elizabeth Mascher Paul McCallum, Hermann Nonnenmacher, Theresa Presley, Khamis Siam, Brian Sims, Judy Smetana, Howard Smith, Ryan Speelman

Absent: Rick Hardy, Anil Lal, Fang Lin, Matthew Montague, Greg Murray, David Pearson

Guest: Bienvenido Cortes, Chelsey Decker, Leslie Duke, Aaron Hurt, Andy Klenke, Eva Sager

The minutes of the October 13, 2021 were approved with no corrections.

Dr. Smetana moved for approval, Dr. Hudiburg seconded and the motion carried.

Graduate Faculty recommendations: None

The following were submitted for Graduate Service Recommendation(s):

New:

Kristen Livingston (Tested Experience)	Communication 22/SP COMM 765 Strategic Planning and Communication Campaigns COMM 785 International Communication
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Patricia Magee (Tested Experience)	History, Philosophy and Social Sciences 22/SP SWK 723 Foundation Social Work Practicum II SWK 724 Foundation Practicum Integrative Seminar II
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Chelsey Decker (Tested Experience)	Kelce Graduate School of Business 22/SU MGT 828 Leadership and Behavioral Management
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Renewals:

Heather Caldwell (Tested Experience)	Psychology and Counseling 22/SP PSYCH 705 Human Service Skills
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Jamie Brooksher (Tested Experience)	Kelce Graduate School of Business 22/SP MGT 830 Business, Government and Society
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Mary Judene Nance (Tested Experience)	Kelce Graduate School of Business 22/SP
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IB 810 Topics in International Business
MGT 895 Strategic Management
MGT 821 Topics in Business: B2B Marketing

Mary Kay Wachter
(Tested Experience)

Kelce Graduate School of Business
22/SP
MGT 821 Topics in Business

Dr. Hudiburg moved to approve all Graduate Service recommendations, with the exception of the recommendation for Chelsey Decker, which she requested to have further conversation about, Dr. Sims seconded and the motion carried.

Dr. Hudiburg shared that her concern with the recommendation for Chelsey Decker was that the request does not include any evidence of prior teaching experience. Chelsey Decker shared the following: she joined PSU in May, she received her master's degree at KU in Higher Education Administration, she chose this degree to learn more about the academic affairs side of education, she is currently pursuing an Ed.S. in Advanced Studies in Leadership at PSU, she previously worked at KU where she assisted with tutoring services and served as a volunteer GA with the School of Business at KU where she assisted in the classroom with mentors.

Dr. Cortes mentioned that the course that Chelsey would be teaching is an online MBA course and that Chelsey has been working with the CTLT and Dr. Kristen Maceli who currently teaches this course. Dr. Speelman mentioned that if the Ed.S. is not the terminal degree, it does not meet the criteria. Dr. Hudiburg mentioned that the portfolio review doesn't meet the criteria either. Dr. Speelman noted that what was shared might satisfy the other categories of tested experience.

Dr. Karayigit moved to send the request for Chesley Decker back to the department to update the tested experience document for resubmission, Dr. Elliott seconded and the motion carried.

The following curricular matters were submitted:

College of Technology

Technology and Workforce Learning

Request for New Emphasis

MS Technology (STEM College Teaching)

Dr. Goris shared that this emphasis will prepare students that would like to teach at community colleges in the future. Dr. Klenke mentioned that he is already teaching all of the courses that are part of the emphasis so no additional resources are needed. The emphasis is primarily for international students who want to teach. Dr. Jayawardhana asked if this emphasis would only allow someone to teach at a community college. Dr. Klenke explained that this program will not provide a licensure, that he anticipates that students who earn this emphasis will teach as GA's, at community colleges, or possibly go on to earn a doctorate and teach at universities.

Request for Creation of Course

GRT 715 Leadership Strategies in Information Technology

Dr. Goris shared that GRT 715 is a new course that will be taught online this summer.

Request for Degree Changes

Admission Requirements and Conditions for Full Admission for International Students

Dr. Klenke explained that scores students receive on the IELTS don't always match their abilities based on data he has collected. Therefore, international students will be admitted conditionally to the MS Technology program. International students will be assessed on their language skills when they arrive, if they don't pass they will have to take either IEP 110 or IEP 112.

Dr. Speelman moved to approve the Technology and Workforce Learning curricular items, Dr. Jewett seconded and the motion carried.

New Business:

PTE and IELTS Language Scores: English testing now offered online at home. IELTS notified us of the change and PTE has requested that we sign up if we want to accept online scores.

Aaron Hurt shared the following regarding online language tests:

- **Language testing centers have been doing online testing due to COVID.**
- **Testing centers in some areas are still closed or have limited seats available.**
- **Most other schools are accepting online scores.**
- **The online testing is monitored in some way.**
- **The same scoring systems that are used for in-person testing are being used for online testing.**
- **TOEFL and IELTS have already been providing online testing scores. PTE is the only test that has asked if we want to accept the online scores.**
- **Duolingo is another online language test that currently only MBA is accepting. However, other schools such as KU and Wichita are accepting duolingo scores at least temporarily due to COVID.**
- **We are receiving duolingo scores even though most programs are not accepting the scores. These test results provide some video footage of the student completing the test.**

Dr. Smetana asked what the alternative would be to accepting online scores. Aaron shared that it would result in fewer students, we would have to do placement test, students would be admitted conditionally and this could result in more visa denials for students.

Dr. Elliott asked if there is any data that shows that students taking the online test have increased scores. Aaron shared we do not currently have any data on the online testing. When we receive the scores, the results don't indicate whether or not the test was done online or in-person, but that sometimes you can tell from the background in the picture.

There was discussion on approving to accept PTE online scores as well as duolingo scores temporarily to gather data, but there were concerns on how and when to

assess the data. Another concern was that if duolingo scores are accepted we would have to determine the scores that we would accept.

Dr. Hudiburg moved to table this item until we have more information, Dr. Elliott seconded and the motion carried.

IRB Process

Dr. Clemensen shared that he reached out to the IRB Chair, Dr. David Miller about attending the meeting to answer questions regarding the IRB process but he was unable to attend. However, Dr. Clemensen did send him some questions and below is a summary of the information he provided from those questions.

- Information on the IRB process is provided on the IRB website.
- Dr. Miller does not recall since 2015 any IRB's being denied. However, the board and the IRB Chair have sometimes requested revision and resubmission of some applications.
- The board may ask about method or measure if they suspect risk or harm could be caused to research subjects.
- The IRB Board has contacted departments regarding revisions to the IRB process. Chairs should be informing those in their areas that might be impacted.
- CITI Training has been purchased and is required for all those doing Human Subjects Research.
- The boards meeting minutes regarding applications are available for reference.
- The boards internal review process has been updated so that responses are received in a timely manner, can be tracked, and attached to applications.
- The Policy Assurance Handbook and the IRB webpage have been updated and are more accessible.
- Dr. Howard Smith is making others aware of IRB including President's Council.
- A requirement for documentation of IRB approval before presentations are given at the Capitol Research Summit and the Colloquium is being discussed.
- A presentation regarding the changes to the IRB process was given at Professional Development Day.
- Software suites for submission and to track applications is being explored.

Dr. Smith mentioned that he wanted to clarify that there is an IRB committee with faculty representation.

Online MBA update from Dr. Cortes and Chelsey Decker

Dr. Cortes shared that the online MBA program is the same program as the traditional MBA, that it is just offered online in seven-week sessions. There are two sessions a semester and one session in the summer, so there are five entry points for students to start the program. The program is a collaboration with Academic Partnerships. Twenty faculty members have taught for this program, the faculty earn EDC's for teaching these courses. Some courses have had over 100 students enrolled at a time, when this happens academic coaches are hired from another company, Instructional Connections, the coaches are available to assist the instructors. In the future the department would like to add more emphasis areas, such as marketing, health administration and construction management. The main issue with growth is having enough academically qualified instructors available to teach the courses. The department has also been

visiting with Academic Partnerships about expanding the program outside of the United States. Specifically, with Paraguay since we already have a PSU in Paraguay program. Currently Academic Partnerships does not have the resources for this expansion.

Chelsey Decker shared current and past enrollment numbers, the number of students pursuing the different emphasis areas, graduation numbers, and the amount that the university has earned from the program.

Dr. Siam asked how the online program has affected the regular MBA. Dr. Cortes mentioned that the online MBA enrollment is increasing and the traditional MBA enrollment is remaining flat.

Dr. Jayawardhana inquired how the money is split, if other programs wanted to pursue this type of program. Dr. Cortes shared that it is split 50/50 with Academic Partnerships.

Dr. Jayawardhana asked if the online MBA students are included in the 20th day numbers. Dr. Smith said they are included in the part time student number.

Old Business: None

Committee Reports

Dr. Sims shared that the Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol will be held virtually March 1st- March 3rd. Abstracts for this event will be due December 1st. The Graduate Research Day at the Capitol date should be set on November 11th. The Research Colloquium will be held April 13, 2022. This event will be held in person with a virtual component. Volunteer judges will be needed for this event.

Dr. Dresner moved to adjourn, Dr. Smetana seconded and the motion carried.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 1, 2021