

## College Graduate Council

November 9, 2017

**Present:** Associate William Hart-Davidson, Danielle DeVoss (WRAC), Debra Hardison (TESOL), Shannon Schweitzer (THR), Charlene Polio (LIN), Ben VanDyke (AAHD), Joe Francese (RCS), Jose' Badillos-Carlos (student representative), Jamie Nelson (PHL), Shawn Loewen (SLS), Guest-Kirk Domer (Chair, THR)

**Approvals:** Agenda and minutes were moved to be approved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Action Items: Arts and Cultural Management MA program and courses: involving consolidation of management and operational studies. Addition of independent study (890); change of special topics (891); 868—change in name in focus from Law and Policy for ACM to Non-Profit Law for ACM. Professor DeVoss asked if 869 as a new course Policy and Advocacy for ACM might be a duplication of 868. Chair Domer said the function of both should be different enough. Professor VanDyke asked why this was being discussed in CGC versus College Curriculum Committee (CCC). Hart-Davidson said that was because CCC deals with undergraduate curriculum, and CGC handles the graduate courses and curriculum. Professor Loewen asked what the members should be looking for when program and course changes are discussed in CGC. Hart-Davidson explained the basic process of how courses and program changes proceed past the college level, to the University Committee on Graduate Studies (UGCS). The question was called. It was moved and unanimously approved to accept the ACM changes as a package and send them forth.

### Announcements:

1. MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program—Hart-Davidson said this is for bachelor and master's students from Africa. If members feel they have applicants that may be eligible, he urged them to consider contacting the program. Professor Hardison commented that the award is for two years, and then the unit is responsible for the remaining funding.
2. New IRB Software system Click—going live on December 4, 2017. Hart-Davidson said he has already seen a few presentations on this, and it looks easier to work with than the current IRB system. Professor Munn said that the current IRB system is disappearing for good December 4, 2018. If faculty or students have exempt items, they need to get them downloaded from the current IRB system before next year.
3. COGS Graduate student conference—February 17, 2018, in the MSU Union. There will be two half-day conferences: digital presence, and an improvisation workshop, inspired by Theatre, designed to assist graduate students to reduce anxiety.
4. Janet reminded the group of the University Fellowship deadline of Friday, January 12, 2018 for applications.
5. Citizen Scholars is looking for two graduate students to work approximately nine hours per week starting in January 2018. This would be doing portfolio reviews for undergraduate students, evaluating and assessing their activities for Citizen Scholars.

## Discussion Items:

### 1. Recruitment Activities

Hart-Davidson led off by saying that yesterday he sat in on a webinar regarding recruitment. One of the things recommended was coordinated recruitment activity, which have often been done in the college. He said he knew that a few units had already sent in recruitment plans. With that, he offered the group the opportunity to share any recruitment plans they currently have set.

DeVoss said in WRAC they are inviting all the accepted doctoral students to campus February 22 and 23. There are social activities both nights, and coordinated group activities during the day.

Loewen said that the Second Language Studies Symposium February 22 and 23. Accepted applicants will come to campus. They have a potluck. Students do their practice talks as well.

Professor Nelson shared that Philosophy plans a recruiting activity in conjunction with the graduate student conference they hold each spring.

Professor Schweitzer said that Theatre does their recruiting at the University Resident Theatre Association (URTA); both in New York and Chicago. They may not look at URTA in the future because the numbers have declined. Several large universities are dropping their doctoral programs in Theatre across the country.

In German Professor Mittman said that since German is such a small program, the recruitment is more one-on-one activities. Some programs are looking at how to encourage undergraduate students to consider a graduate degree in German. Hart-Davidson said that matching funds could certainly be used for recruitment of undergraduates. The STEM programs have a model for juniors each summer. CAL currently does not have such a program, but the new dean of The Graduate School is a fan of that program.

### 2. Graduate Student Commons Areas—

A request came to the College recently from a unit that is renovating space for graduate students. The request was for couches, and Hart-Davidson said no couches. His rationale is that the college is trying to create inclusive and non-threatening spaces, and he feels that sofas send the wrong sort of message. Therefore, if units are planning to make changes for graduate student space, he would like to hear about what the units are considering and why. Professors Polio and Munn said there was a problem with some space in Wells Hall regarding space that was used for teaching assistants and undergraduates, and there was some concern regarding FERPA compliance. The research assistants have no place to work, which has the effect of holding such an assistantship less desirable than a teaching assistantship, since the GEU contract demands that adequate space be given to them to work. The interest is in using space in ways that enhance the graduate students' experience as much as possible. Students should feel welcome and not isolated or marginalized. Mittman asked if the creation of the Language school could deal with graduate student space issues. Student Representative Badillo-Carlos asked if the school would change the space issues for teaching assistants. This is also an issue regarding FERPA when students come in for office hours, because there is no privacy.

## Roundtable

LIN-- Polio asked if an application for the Varg-Sullivan award had to be in the past year. Hart-Davidson said the date is not strict. The award cannot be split between two students authoring the same paper. If a student authors a paper with a faculty member but is the primary author, that is eligible.

SLS-- Loewen said there was activity regarding grants, hiring students, and are looking to the college for procedures. Hart-Davidson said there is now a post-award strategy in the college. He advised Loewen to get in touch with the research team, and set up a kick-off meeting. Loewen asked if there is a repository of information, and Hart-Davidson said that is still in motion. He also commented that a recent request came to his attention asking if a graduate workshop on grants might be offered.

Graduate Representative Badillo-Carlos: He and other students are putting together a LatinX film festival. It will be publicized on a website and social media. It is scheduled for February 1-4, 2018.

German-Mittman shared that they are writing by-laws. Some faculty and graduate students are planning to attend the Graphic Narratives Network Research workshop next spring. The focus is on trauma in history.

Theatre—Shannon shared that actors and directors from Stratford Festival are on campus for a residency program, which has been going on for ten years. The show “The Misanthrope” opens tomorrow.

Linguistics-- Munn said that the graduate students are asking about more travel funding, and he queried about how other units deal with that. Janet suggested he get in touch with Justus Nieland in English regarding their Cycle program for graduate students applying for travel funding. DeVoss also said that WRAC has a program for applying for travel funding, and offered to share the rubrics of it with the group.

PHL—A new graduate seminar focusing on logic and language is in the works.

TESOL —Several TESOL students had papers accepted at international conferences.

WRAC—Danielle said they are offering training for graduate students on how and where they can report any instances where they do not feel safe, where they can go. Ben indicated he would be interested.

The meeting ended at 4:50 p.m.