

GAAC Minutes
 Friday, February 19, 2016 8:30 -10:00am
 Verhaegen Hall, Room 219

Terry Tomazic – Intrm Assoc Provost Grad Ed	Damon Hall
Heidi Ardizzzone	Sanjay Jayaram
Jan Barber	Toni Miceli
Georgia Baugh	Laura McLaughlin
Kyle Lincoln	Christine Werner
Julie Birkemaier	Lisa Willoughby
David Crossley	Bonnie Wilson
Kelly Dineen	Steve Winton
Angeles Encinara	
R Alex Fajardo	Jay Haugen
John Fu	Terri Rebmann

I. Approval of Minutes – Minutes of January 22, 2016 were approved unanimously

II. **Old Business**

A. **Global Outcomes (Tomazic)** – This document was discussed at length to try to address issues and concerns. The biggest concern was the fact that these outcomes are more geared toward thesis-driven programs and do not directly apply to professional programs. It was decided to remove the note stating the difference between a Masters and Ph.D. and put that in the Academic Definitions document, and change the wording of #2 so that the word “practices” is stated first before “research methodologies” and thus eliminating the confusion that the word is associated with “research”. The edited final document was emailed to the committee to bring back to their units for feedback if desired and there will be a final vote in the next meeting.

B. **Academic Definitions (Haugen)** – The most updated document of this was distributed to the committee before the meeting. Jay Haugen asked the members for any feedback. There was some question from the Law School regarding the certificate programs and whether or not it would allow for embedding it into a degree program. The definitions document considers certificates to only be stand-alone credentials, and having credits apply to two different credentials is not allowed. Embedded certificates are something that can be discussed in the future in an amendment to the definitions. There was also a discussion on electives and whether or not this term is applicable to graduate degrees. It was decided that there was no value to having a definition of an “elective”, so the section was dropped from the document. It was then discussed to include the note of the Global Outcomes document, where it explained the difference between a Masters and PhD as far as research outcomes. A revised version of this document will be distributed to the committee members for feedback and it will be brought up for a vote at the next meeting.

C. **Policy change on outside work for Graduate Assistants (GA) (Tomazic)** – This was postponed until next meeting due to time restraints.

D. **Graduate Student Annual Review Survey (Tomazic)** – The survey on the annual review process for established (not first year) graduate students went out to the students and the

Office of Graduate Education has collected the data. A summary sheet was provided to the committee. The results so far show that only 38% of the students had even taken part in an annual academic review, which is required of all programs. It is unclear if the students just did not realize they had one or if they actually did not have one. This is just the preliminary report, a final report will be presented at the next meeting, along with a breakdown of which departments had students respond. In the meantime, feedback is requested on the preliminary data from individual units.

III. **New Business**

A. **GA Limit of 5 years** – This has been tabled until the next meeting due to time restraints. The chair of the English department will come to better articulate the concerns of their department.

B. **Discontinuation of the MS in BSDP (Rebmann)** – Terri Rebmann, Director for the Institute for Biosecurity, was present to discuss the discontinuation of the traditional MS in Biosecurity and Disaster Preparedness (BSDP). This program has been around for a while and they have been moving to the MPH in BSDP and now offer an online MPH in BSDP. As a result they have seen that the student enrollment in the MS has almost completely dropped off. Most students are much more interested in the MPH, and the market is more interested in graduates from the MPH program as opposed to the MS. Therefore, from a financial and academic perspective it was decided that the best course of action was to eliminate the MS and offer students the option to transition to the online MPH and no longer admitting students to the MS. Students who opt not to transition will be given the opportunity to take the courses that will be eliminated one last time before the program is officially discontinued.

IV. **Announcements**

A. Next meeting: March 18

Talking Points:

1. **Global Outcomes:** The draft of the Global Outcomes with the changes discussed at today's GAAC meeting has been distributed to the committee. Please discuss these changes with your individual units. This will be brought up for a final vote at the next meeting.
2. **Academic Definitions:** A revised draft of the academic definitions taking into account changes discussed at today's GAAC meeting has been distributed to the committee. Please take this back to your individual units for feedback and email this to Terry Tomazic. This will be up for a final vote at the next meeting.
3. **Annual Review:** A breakdown of departments will be provided at a later date. In the meantime, please discuss the summary report provided for feedback from the individual units.