

Minutes
Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
September 8, 2017

Members in Attendance: R. Wood, J. Curley, a. Nedved, D Hall (for A. Miller), A. Kent, A. Rellergert, A, Trees, M. Brammer (for C. Werner), B. Boyle, H. Ardizzone, J. Barbaer, J. Fu, J. Martin, J. Nichols, J. Geczi, S. Jayaram, S. Winton

Guests in Attendance: J. Haugen, M. Grawitch, S. Mudigonda

Call to Order: R. Wood called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from the May 12, 2017 meeting: Motion was made to approve the May 12, 2017 minutes as written.

New Business:

A. **New SPS Certificates:**

Steve Winton, Matt Grawitch, and Srikanth Mudigonda addressed the group regarding new SPS programs. SPS has two master's degrees: a master's in Applied Analytics and a master's in Leadership and Organizational Development. One of the issues that they have dealt with is some students not having an interest in furthering their education with SLU because they already have a Master's degree. However, they have an interest in various aspects of our master's programs. There is also an issue with students having to leave the program early due to various life events, but who would like to leave with a credential.

What they decided to do is to create some stand-alone certificates that students who either already have their master's degree or are pursuing

their Masters could pick up extra certificates along the way. They are: Certificate in Applied Analytics, Certificate in Evidence-Based Decision Making, Certificate in Organizational Development, and Certificate in Organizational Leadership.

All but one of these certificates, Evidence-Based Decision Making, are fully based on existing coursework. One new course will need to be created: Advanced Evidence-based Decision Making. Each certificate is twelve hours and can be stacked.

Members voted to approve all four proposals and the outcome was unanimous in favor of all four. These will now be recommended to the Provost for endorsement and will then go to CADD. They are scheduled for Fall of 2018 based on the catalog since these are certificates using existing courses.

B. Bylaws of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee (GAAC):

Rob asked the group to go over the by-laws to remind themselves what the objectives are. He reminded the group that GAAC is a deliberative body ultimately have the responsibility of recommending or not recommending programs to CADD and to the Provost ultimately for implementation. Rob feels that the committee will have a full agenda for the year.

Announcements:

- Jay reminded the group that at the end of last year several policies in the Grad Ed Catalog were approved but there are still many remaining. He will be reassembling the packet of these.

Jay gave an update on the new CourseLeaf software. SLU purchased three products: Catalog Management, Curriculum Management, and Section Scheduling.

The Catalog will be online and data based. It will be easy to search and link to from the departmental websites.

Curriculum Management is the software that updates the catalog. This committee approves a policy, it goes through curriculum management, and goes to the Catalog. It will work flow all the policy, major requirements, new program requests, beginning fall of 2018.

Section Scheduler is how the departments will schedule their courses. This will be up in January for classes in summer of 2018. It puts all the rule enforcement at the front end instead of the back.

This year, Rob would like to have solid discussions based in evidence as opposed to emotion. What he experienced last year were rejections to innovation that was largely based on a motive response and not based on any intellectual integrated sound response to something. He doesn't want to fall further behind from what is happening in higher education on a national landscape. When there are logical changes that can be made that don't disrupt our integrity as an institution and allow innovations in a variety of ways, we should seriously entertain doing those things. He asked the committee to work with him and Jay on things that they need to get done in an expeditious way.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.