

UMGSB Graduate Council
MINUTES
Thursday, November 4, 2021
Zoom Meeting Hosted by: UMB

In Attendance: Erin Golembewski, Janet Rutledge, Lisa Morgan, Joel Tyson, Kathy O'Dell, Weidong Zhu, John Basile, Jamila Savage, Jeff Halverson, Steve Pitts, Mathangi Gopalakrishnan, Kirsten Corazzini, Eileen Meyer, Jenny Owens, Sarah Chard, William Jackson, Minjoung Kyoung

[Approval of Minutes from Council Meeting held on October 7, 2021.](#)

A motion was made to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was properly moved and seconded. All were in favor.

Announcements

UMBC

- The Graduate School has a position open for the Assistant Dean for Administration Policy and Compliance. The “for best consideration” date is November 19.
- The virtual candidacy ceremony held on October 15 went well and included a component where candidates and mentors were virtually highlighted on stage.
- The Graduate School is receiving an increase in the number of student mediation cases that involve several meetings with the General Counsel. It is believed that this is the result of a lot of pent up issues from COVID and we are not sure how long this pattern will continue. We are looking into ways we can help to relieve some of this pressure for our students.
- The listening sessions which were a part of the ongoing series “What’s Next for the Graduate School,” have been postponed until the spring. The panelists requested additional time to prepare.

UMB

- UMB has seen an increase in the number of academic misconduct cases which also may be related to COVID pressures and related internal program concerns. We are working with the Student Counseling Center to outreach to students between labs to bring attention to the services that the counseling center provides.
- The inauguration of UMB President, Bruce Jerrell, will take place outside on Friday, November 5.
- Open searches are being conducted for the Dean of the School of Law as well as a Dean for the School of Medicine.

GSA Reports

UMBC (Joel Tyson)

- The GSA has recently decided to work on getting regular transportation to Dulles airport for new students who come in the spring and fall semesters. Usually, the GSA works with Transit and the Center for Global Engagement to provide this service. However, now, the goal is to make this a sustained option and not just something available if someone thinks about it.

- The Housing Committee is assessing how we can make housing opportunities better for students on campus. The committee will look at what the problems are, do some information finding, and make recommendations for improvements. We have talked to the UMCP GSA President who shared an interesting/possible solution--at UMCP they have a lot of private and public partnerships for housing graduate students. In response, Janet shared that Walker Avenue Apartments are a public-private partnership housing option at UMBC and is the only unit that graduate students can live in. It was also explained the units set aside for graduate students are never filled since these are more expensive than the surrounding apartment options. Erin shared that UMB has a partnership with Fayette Square Apartments and there might be an opportunity for some collaboration.
- Two town halls were held this week and some of the feedback received is that students with disabilities feel invisible to the Grad School. In addition, grad students in the Shady Grove program expressed that they feel ignored by the GSA on main campus. Kathy O'Dell shared that Shady Grove does have their own GSA. In addition, it was explained by Janet that although UMBC charges a grad fee, we don't charge a grad fee to Shady Grove students. During the College of Natural and Mathematical Science town hall, students from the Chemistry Department shared a survey about stipends and they are pushing to increase their stipend levels. The GSA is discussing whether we want to replicate that survey specifically among other CNMS programs.

UMB (Erin Golembewski in the absence of Nikita who is attending a conference)

- The GSA is working on multiple student advocacy projects around campus and they have recently been asked to serve on a number of committees including, the student fee advisory committee, the GA stipend committee and the student health insurance plan committee.

Committee Reports

Program Review

Molecular Medicine (MMD) – The review had four areas of evaluations: assessment of current status; modern training for significant research, planning and assessment and general strengths and weaknesses. The overall conclusion of the program by the reviewers is that MMED is a strong productive, and effective program for graduate student training and development in modern biomedical research and is a robust and stalwart leader among the PhD programs in the UMB School of Medicine. ***The committee recommended approval of the MMD review and all were in favor.***

Certificate Program in Research Ethics (Site visit September 10, 2021) – The review consisted of five areas of evaluation: strengths and weaknesses, modern training, continuous planning and assessment, plans for the future, and ranking of the program. Several strengths were noted, however, there were not weaknesses listed. It was explained that instead of labeling as weaknesses, items were relabeled as opportunities for development. The areas of improvement as well as other review items were addressed by the program director in a response dated September 27. ***The committee recommended approval of the Ethics review and all were in favor.***

Long Range Planning and New Programs

Master's degree in Learning and Performance Technology change from 36 credits to 30 credits – It was explained that the change is due to changes in the field and profession and changes in the professional associations' focus to address performance, and response to market need/demand. The committee recommended approval of this request. Majority were in favor, with one abstention.

New Courses

The following recommendations were made by the committee:

UMB

Course

PHAR 607 (1) – Experimental Success 2

PHAR 649 (1) – Clinical Pharmacology in Drug Development

MSPA 682 (2) – Summative Evaluation

MSPA 670 (3) - Telehealth

MSPA 510 (2) – Clinical Diagnostic Studies

Recommendation

Recommend approval pending bio-sketch/CV for the instructors

Recommend approval pending bio-sketch/CV for the instructors

Recommend revise and resubmit

Recommend approval with administrative revision

Require guidance/administrative confirm on these issues prior to recommend approval

UMBC

Course

IS 757 – Deep Learning

Recommendation

Recommend approval pending bio-sketch/CV for the instructors

A motion to approve the recommendations was made. The motion was properly moved and seconded and all were in favor.

Graduate Faculty

The following recommendations were made by the committee:

UMB

Regular

Tettelin, Herve' - Microbiology & Immunology

Special

UMBC

Regular

Ataca, Can – Physics

Fountain, Erika – Psychology

Inaba, Karrie - Psychology

Khambaty, Tasneem - Psychology

Nnawulezi, Nkiru - Psychology

Rahnemoonfar, Maryam - Information Systems

Special

Bengochea, Ann - MLLI

Old Business

- The final draft of the Graduate Faculty Guidelines was reviewed. After some discussion a vote took place and all were in favor of the new guidelines.

New Business

- UMB is recruiting for volunteers to serve on the Graduate Council Grievance Committee. Kirsten and Bill will represent UMB and an additional volunteer from UMBC is needed. Steve Pitts volunteered to serve.

Adjournment

Next Meeting
December 2, 2021
Teleconference Led by UMBC