

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

THE GRADUATE COUNCIL- MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

3:30pm – 5:00pm

- PLACE:** Zoom
- PRESIDING:** Donald G. Nieman, Provost & Interim Dean of the Graduate School
- MEMBERS:** Manoj Agarwal, Christopher Bishop, David Campbell, Elizabeth Casteen, Nikolay Dimitrov, Jim Galbraith (rep. Curtis Kendrick), Michael Jacobson, Kimberly Jausi, Sha Jin, Lesie Lander; Alistair Lees, Loretta Mason-Williams, Andreas Pape, Sabina Perrino, Gail Rattinger, Nicole Rouhana, Nadia Rubaii, Vrushab Sakpal (rep. GSO President), Kent Schull, Douglas Summerville, Leo Wilton
- EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:** Nasrin Fatima, Gretchen Mahler, Erin Neske, Sara Reiter, Ellen Tilden
- EXCUSED/ABSENT:** Seden Akcinaroglu, Susan Bane, Luiza Moreira, Tim Singler, Lawrence Tumey, Kaiming Ye

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Provost Nieman called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

II. Minutes from the November 30, 2020 meeting

Vicki Griffin is working on the November 30, 2020 minutes and will upload to the google drive when complete. Kellie Hovancik, new to the graduate school, will be taking over this task going forward.

III. Committees

Academic Standards Committee – This committee met on February 8, 2021. Gretchen Mahler noted there was a request from several graduate directors to have blanket approval to the extension of the 5 year limit for admission to candidacy. The current Graduate school policy states that graduate students who are in the doctoral program have 5 years to complete their course work and be advanced to their candidacy. She added there have been COVID-related challenges to some departments concerning that timeline, they asked for a blanket extension of 1 year. After some discussion, the academic standards committee agreed to make a blanket approval for a 5-year limit from 2021 – 2022, so all students that are coming up on a 5-year limit will be given an extension without having to submit the paperwork. A question was brought forth whether this is permanent or only for the year. Gretchen

explained that this is a temporary extension. Additional questions were answered by Gretchen Mahler and the committee approved to make a blanket approval for a 5 year limit until Spring 2022.

Before discussing the next agenda item, Gretchen Mahler explained where you can find the new workflow software and how you can view proposals from the workflow. She added anyone who submits a proposal would know where in the process it was. The workflow would also provide a permanent record of these proposals.

Curriculum Committee – This committee met on February 15, 2021. Gretchen Mahler presented the following:

Permanent course proposals:

1. Computer Science 526 – Internet of things – This course was previously run as a topics course, and being made into a permanent course. There were a few additions that were asked by the curriculum committee to make the prerequisites more general so they made more sense to those who are not a Binghamton undergraduate. There was also work noted on the diversity statement. Gretchen Mahler was present to answer questions. CS 526 was approved as a permanent course.
2. Systems Science Industrial Engineering 548 – Healthcare Science and Data Analytics– This course was previously offered experimentally as 543X. This course includes graduate learning outcomes which SUNY has been requesting when programs are being revised. There were edits made to the diversity statements and clarification made to the undergrad program because this is a cross-listed course with ISE 443. Gretchen Mahler was present to answer questions. SSIE 548 was approved as a permanent course.
3. Systems Science Industrial Engineering 664 – Advanced Engineering Management – This course was previously offered as an experimental course 664X. This course has 1 prerequisite, a 500 level SSIE course, teaching industrial engineers project management skills. The curriculum committee felt the diversity statement was strong with no edits requested. There is a specific unit related to diversity in the course. Gretchen Mahler was present to answer questions. SSIE 664 was approved as a permanent course.

Program Revisions:

1. Educational Leadership Distance Education Proposal – Educational Leadership Advanced Certificate- The department plans to continue to offer courses as hybrid, synchronous in-person and online, so students can complete course work from a distance. They expect 20 students in total for both in-person and distance learning. Gretchen Mahler and Loretta Mason-Williams were present to answer questions. The Educational Leadership Distance Education proposal was approved.
2. Cybersecurity – Advanced Certificate in Cybersecurity- This proposal is to add an elective to the certificate program. The Watson College would like to add SC 527X, global systems security to one of the specialization areas for the certificate. Gretchen Mahler, Doug Summerville, and Les Lander were present to answer questions. The addition of one elective offering for the applications track of the cybersecurity certificate was approved.

New Programs:

1. Occupational Therapy – Entry-Level Professional- This is a 98 credit degree. Students will be eligible for licensure by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. Responses from reviewers were included as well as headcounts. We will need to have the approval from NY State Department of Education by June 2022 to offer this degree in 2023. Gretchen Mahler and Provost Nieman were present to answer questions. The Occupational Therapy – Entry Level Professional program was approved.
2. Occupational Therapy – Post-Professional- This is a completion program for students who have their master's in Occupational Therapy to obtain their doctorate. This degree is for master's prepared occupational therapists. This course will be offered exclusively online and is 36 credits. Once approved by the NY State Department of Education, we can start offering the program. Gretchen Mahler and Provost Nieman were present to answer questions. The Occupational Therapy – Post Professional doctorate completion program was approved.

Advisory Committee for Scholarship and Research – This committee met on November 16, 2020. Michael Jacobson from the committee provided an update. He noted the committee will be holding their first quarter meeting tomorrow.

Student Affairs/Budget Advisory Committee – This committee met on January 8, 2021. Gretchen Mahler provided a brief review, noting all of the Graduate School Excellence Awards nominations were reviewed. There were over 60 nominations and the committee narrowed it down to the top 35 students. These students will receive an award amount of \$500 with an award certificate. There will be a ceremony at the end of March. Kellie Hovancik will be sending out the invitations soon.

Clark Advisory Committee – This committee met on February 11, 2021. Gretchen Mahler provided a brief review. There were 26 nominations for the first round of the Clark Fellowships. The committee made 9 offers and will review the rest of the nominations in March.

IV. New Business

Provost Nieman presented the preliminary report from the Ad Hoc Task Force on graduate curriculum processes. He noted there is a joint Faculty Senate and Provost task force reviewing graduate curricular processes. Sara Rider is co-chairing this group with Provost Nieman. He referred the Committee to the draft proposal noting they received feedback from Deans and Faculty Senate which both have been positive. Sara Reiter summarized the ideas proposed in this preliminary report. She noted that the Deans liked the idea of simplifying the curriculum process. The Committee provided some feedback. Provost Nieman and Sara Reiter will bring forth ideas to the Ad Hoc Task Force for the next steps.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Kellie Hovancik,
Administrative Assistant to the Dean of The Graduate School