

*The sixth meeting of the Graduate Council for 2015-2016 year was on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 in Conference Room 153 A&B Biotech Place. Brad Jones chaired the meeting.*

**Present:** Brad Jones, Dwayne Godwin, Sarah Lafferty, Nicholette Allred, Gloria Muday, Steve Robinson, Tim Howard, David John, Mike Furr, Leah McCoy, Ralph D'Agostino, Ronald Nelson (GSA)

**Absent:** Hui-Wen Lo, Steve Messier, Ed Swords, Steve Walker

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### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**A. Minutes from the February 2, 2016 meeting (*Attachment*).**

Minutes from the February 2, 2016 meeting were discussed and approved.

**B. GSA Report (Ronald Nelson)**

1. Camel City BBQ Graduate Student Social - Approximately 40 students attended
2. GSA Website - Set-up but not dynamic for growth. A website company has been contacted and a free license obtained to develop a more easily maintainable website capable of growth.
3. 2016 NC Intercollegiate Graduate Student (5/7/16) - Tickets currently on sale, closing 4/15/16. Distribution through various graduate student presidents. Further announcements will be sent to Sarah Lafferty for dissemination.

**C. Committee Reports**

**A. Curriculum (Tim Howard, *Chair*)**

**1. Course Change Proposals**

Course Number	Course Name	Action
BMI 701	Introduction to Biomedical Informatics	ADD
BMI 702	Data Representation and Analysis	ADD
BMI 703	Machine Learning	ADD
CPTS 761	Detecting and Understanding Health Disparities	ADD
CPTS 762	Promoting Health Equity	ADD
IPP 716	Translational and Educational Research Topics	ADD
SUS 791	Thesis Research	CHANGE

BMI course are within approved programs. The concentrations in this area will be approved under Other Business. Tim Howard put forward the change proposals. All additions were approved.

**B. Credentials (Ed Swords, *Chair*)**

**1. Nominations for Graduate Faculty**

Name	Department/Graduate Program Affiliation
Anna K. Lack, PhD	Biology
Elizabeth Alli, PhD	Cancer Biology
Geoff Price, PhD	Education
Sarah Fick, PhD	Education

Leah McCoy put forward the nominations for Education faculty. Gloria Muday put forward Biology Faculty. Dr. Lack will not advise students as she is a teaching track faculty however, she will serve on graduate committees and teach graduate courses. It will be up to the department to ensure she does not serve as a primary mentor. Dwayne Godwin put forward the Cancer Biology Faculty. All nominations were approved.

## **2. Re-credentialing Review Process**

Sarah Lafferty provided an update. 199 of 283 faculty members have submitted re-credentialing forms (submitted every 5 years) that require review for credentialing in July. Drs. Swords, McCoy, Messier, Lo are the committee members. Drs. Godwin, Jones, Howard, Furr, and D'Agostino have volunteered to help with application review. Leah McCoy will make review assignments. Applications are posted on DropBox.

### **C. Policy Committee (David John, Chair)**

The next step in the process is approaching HR and Legal departments at the Medical School. Dwayne Godwin will facilitate this meeting.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A. Biomedical Informatics MS Program Concentration Proposal: Bioinformatics (Ralph D'Agostino)**

Ralph D'Agostino presented this proposal. This concentration is to be offered in the second year of the Master's Program. This will be more biological analytics (genomics, cancer biology, systems biology, etc.). This concentration would include 12 hours of course work. This would support our precision medicine initiatives.

- Gloria Muday raised concerns about prior training. This program is targeted at students with a quantitative background but with a more modest biology background. The course requirements for MCB701 have assumptions of prior biological knowledge. Offering 600 level courses as electives to students with less biology background may help ease the transition and then take MCB701/702 in the second year. This program is a cross campus collaboration allowing for appropriate course requirements from other departments (biology, chemistry, etc.). Biochemistry and Molecular Biology were recommended as appropriate electives which are cross listed as 300/600 courses.
- There was clarification of core (purple) and elective (yellow, dependent on concentration) courses.

The Graduate Council voted to approve this proposal with modifications to the course electives to be submitted later.

### **B. Biomedical Informatics MS Program Concentration Proposal: Imaging Informatics (Ralph D'Agostino)**

Ralph D'Agostino presented this proposal. This concentration is to be offered in the second year of the Master's Program. This will be more focused on analysis of imaging acquired from multiple modalities (MRI, PET, etc.). A Population Informatics concentration is also being developed.

The Graduate Council voted to approve this proposal with modifications to the course electives to be submitted later.

### **C. Graduate Bulletin Changes for the MA Program in Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics (Stephen Robinson, Robert Erhardt)**

Brad Jones and Steve Robinson presented this proposal. The goal of this proposal is to create two parallel tracks (Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics) and not a new concentration.

- There were questions raised by the Council about the distinction. While it would not be different on a diploma there was a question of what would be listed on the transcript.
- There were questions raised by the Council regarding required courses. For each the core courses are different but allowed as electives for the other.
- The submission of paperwork for a new program referring to existing infrastructure in an established program was discussed.

The Graduate Council voted to table this request.

- D. Proposal for Concentration in Integrative Physiology and Pharmacology (Allyn Howlett)**  
This proposal stems from the post-bac program being converted to a Master's in Biomedical Sciences. Currently, the Master's in Biomedical Sciences (formerly post-bac) is 1 credit hour short of a concentration. There is also interest in this program from BME and potentially students pursuing a business degree. There is currently a Neuroscience concentration in the Master's in Biomedical Sciences. The Graduate Council voted to approve this proposal.
- E. Melson Award Committees**  
This is a prestigious student award at the MS and PhD level. Each of these categories (MS (n=6) and PhD (n=7)) typically has a committee of 3 Graduate Council members. Volunteers were Muday, John, Robinson (PhD only) and Allred.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Research Day will be held Thursday, March 24, 2016.**  
We still need one more Bowman Gray judge for the 3MT and 3 more judges for posters.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 pm.