

From: "Emslie, Gordon" <gordon.emslie@wku.edu>

Date: January 24, 2012 6:18:32 PM CST

Subject: Grad Council Recommendation

I have received the attached Senate Recommendation. Frankly, I'm concerned about the adding of 16 net new graduate courses (21 creations plus 1 reactivation, less 6 suspensions) in one month. If this were to continue for the year, it would result in significantly taxing our faculty workload. Most of the courses listed are 3-hour courses, and the majority simply state that "existing" or "current" faculty will be used. Given the constant, and legitimate, faculty concerns about teaching load, I regard this as disingenuous at best and hazardous at worst. I understand that the COMM courses effectively "cancel" (4 creations, 1 reactivation, 5 suspensions), but this leaves the 5 BIOL, and to a lesser extent the 4 JOUR, courses. I understand the nature of courses like EDLD 795 and 796 and have less concern about these. However, overall the proposed slate effectively adds about 2 FTEs to our staffing requirements, in an budget climate where extraordinary efforts will be necessary just to maintain the faculty we have.

At this stage, I would like to treat this recommendation as "pending." I ask that the Graduate Council request more information on the staffing of these extra courses and on the outlook for the rest of the year. If this is the one "spike" for the year, then I can see accommodating it, but if this is shaping the future for the rest of the year, that would be an entirely different story.

Gordon

Biology Graduate Program Summary (27 January, 2012)

The Department of Biology has been asked to provide justification for the creation of five graduate courses (BIOL 523, 532, 533, 545 and 582)¹. Two of these classes (532&533) are on a common theme (Behavioral Ecology) with the 533 class being a laboratory offering. It is a separate offering because not all graduate students will need the laboratory. This will replace the four credit course BIOL 530 Animal Behavior. Biology 582 Biometry will replace 483G Multivariate Statistics as an entry level graduate statistical course in biology. Biology 523 and 545 are courses that will serve our graduate students well and are being offered by faculty who do not teach other graduate only courses (500 and above level).

Additional Information

Number of graduate courses: 60 including several that are not actively taught (~7) and those that serve interdisciplinary programs such as MS in Environmental Science (3 courses) and MS in Homeland Security (4).

Number of actively offered graduate courses: ~45 offered every year or every two years

Number of grad faculty: 31 including Blaine Ferrell and Doug McElroy

Current grad enrollment: 57 students enrolled in classes

Impact on enrollment: The proposed courses will greatly increase the diversity of biology offerings and generate enrollment opportunities for our online students.

Plans to suspend other grad courses: Yes, several will likely be suspended as a result of these proposals (e.g., BIOL 483G Multivariate Statistics, BIOL 530 Animal Behavior).

Impact on faculty work load: These new courses will become part of a 4-semester regime of offerings by the faculty member and they will not increase their teaching load apart from the first-time prep. Moreover, each proposed course represents the expertise of the proposing faculty member and is the sole graduate only course offering by each member (Carl Dick teaches BIOL 430/G every year; as explained above the 532/533 are lecture and lab on the same subject).

¹New Courses Proposed (all previously offered as temp courses except BIOL 523)
BIOL 523 Biological Symbioses and Host-Parasite Associations: Dr. Carl Dick (3rd year faculty), every 2 years.

BIOL 532/533 Behavioral Ecology: Dr. Bruce Schulte (3rd year Department Head), every year with lab offered as needed. Behavioral Ecology, with separate lecture and lab courses, will replace BIOL 530 Animal Behavior.

BIOL 545 Animal Communication: Dr. Michael Smith, every summer. This course has been offered several times under different course numbers. Dr. Schulte also could teach this course.

BIOL 582 Biometry: Dr. Michael Collyer (1st year faculty), every year. Course will replace

BIOL 483G (Multivariate Statistics) formerly taught by Doug McElroy.

To: K Doerner, GSR

From: Ken Payne, Contact for SJ&B

Re: Justification of Graduate Courses Approval at Senate Jan 2012 Meeting

The four graduate courses proposed by the School of Journalism & Broadcasting are part of a collaborative effort with the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation and Sport and DELO Cohort Programs to offer an area of concentration within the current Master of Science in Athletic Administration titled Sport Media & Branding. These four courses represent the only current graduate offerings for the SJ&B, and will be taught by three graduate faculty members within the School's Advertising and Public Relations majors.

Although this area of concentration has yet to be actively marketed to prospective students, planning and programming for the concentration has assumed two of the four courses would be offered every traditional semester (Fall/Spring) and one or two courses in the summer term based on program enrollment and faculty preference. In addition, the Public Relations graduate faculty will also teach a standing course that is already part of the Athletic Administration Master's Degree - RSA 521, Public Relations in Sport and Recreation. Cohort sections for the new concentration are estimated to be approximately 25 students.

Graduate faculty within the SJ&B are assigned a 3/3 course load - therefore as a temporary measure to launch this new program, each graduate course taught in support of the DELO Cohort Program would be in an overload capacity with funding for the overload provided by DELO Cohort Programs. In addition, DELO Cohort Programs will fund any incremental requirements for undergraduate instructors, adjuncts, or graduate assistants needed to support the undergraduate course offerings within each major should the need arise to increase the graduate faculty workload within the Sport Media & Branding concentration. DELO Cohort Programs will seek to fully fund the increase in FTE's necessitated by this new initiative through the Sports Media & Branding project budget once the program becomes established.

Questions concerning DELO Cohort Programs financial participation in the Sport Media & Branding concentration should be directed to:

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