

**Graduate Council  
Minutes of March 21, 2017**

Dr. Bressette called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. In attendance were Jill Cochran, Paula Englis, Basil Englis, Duane Inman, Leslie Marlow-Inman, Bryce Durbin, Joyce Heames, Brett Kennedy, Karen Kurz, Jacqueline McDowell, Nancy Mercer, Monica Willingham

The minutes of November 15 were approved with correction.

**New Business**

Charter School

Dr. Kurz submitted graduate EDU course fees for 2017-18

It was moved and seconded to waive first reading. The motion to waive first reading was approved by voice vote.

The Charter School 2017-18 Fees were *approved by voice vote*.

Campbell School

Dr. Paula Englis provided an update on the MBA with Healthcare Management Track. She commented that new courses will be submitted in the future that will allow student more options for completing the new track. Dean McDowell asked whether the creation of these new courses were already in progress. Dr. Englis responded that they will be taught as topics courses initially.

Dean Heames commented that this plan will have no impact on AACSB or SACS because it is simply allowing students to tailor their electives to allow for this specialization.

Dr. Bressette commented that courses taught as a special topics more than two times should be formally submitted for approval. Dr. Englis asked whether that was an official rule. Dr. Bressette responded that it has always been the expectation that a special topics course was not intended to be a place to park a course that was not approved by Graduate Council as a formal course.

Dean Heams added that this would be distinctive for this type of program and could be a very successful model for additional tracks.

Dean Heames commented about initiatives to promote this healthcare track to the local community. Dr. Paula Englis added that they were also exploring other possible initiatives to increase enrollment in the MBA program, including the one-year MBA plan.

Graduation update

Dr. Bressette outlined information about the upcoming Graduate Commencement. Graduate Commencement will proceed as it has in the past couple of years, with graduate commencement ceremony the Friday night before the Saturday undergraduate commencement. Dr. Bressette asked

whether the two programs wished to keep their separate post commencement celebrations? Both programs indicated they would retain separate post-commencement celebrations.

Dr. Bressette asked whether they wished to keep the same basic format, and both groups did, with speakers chosen from the graduating student population. He added that the graduate program will be printed on the same type of paper as the undergraduate program this time around.

He added that rehearsal for those processing in the ceremony will be the same day, about an hour before.

Dr. Bressette added that the list of anticipated graduate students participating in the commencement ceremony will be sent out by email.

Approval will be done differently this time; the final Faculty Assembly will be the opportunity for faculty approval of the graduates. Does anyone have issues with adding the graduate students to this list for approval? No concerns were voiced.

#### Other items

Monica Willingham asked whether the graduate students would receive a tuition letter about changes for the upcoming year. Dr. Bressette indicated that he would speak to Brian Erb to find out.

The Council was adjourned.

Chair: Andrew Bressette

Secretary: Bryce E. Durbin