

Graduate Council
Minutes of May 6, 2020

Dr. Boyd called the Zoom meeting to order. In attendance were: Basil Englis, Bryce Durbin, Sherre Harrington, Joyce Heames, Matthew Levin, Jacqueline McDowell, Nick McGee, Nancy Mercer, Carolyn Stuftt, Monica Willingham.

Minutes from April 21, 2020 were *approved by voice vote*.

Old Business

Charter School

Dean McDowell provided a sample syllabus for the new course and introduced the following for consideration:

- Proposal: ADD EDU 502 Foundations of Education, Diversity and Psychology, 3-0-3.

Discussion: Dr. Boyd inquired about when this course would be needed. Dean McDowell responded that the course would be needed when sufficient demand existed; approximately 15 students would be required. Dr. Boyd asked if practice teaching was included in the course. Dean McDowell replied that it was not included in the course but was part of the program requirements.

Dr. Englis cautioned that graduate-level courses cross-listed with undergraduate-level courses sometimes created issues with accreditors. There would likely be a need to prove that the courses were distinctive.

The proposal was *approved by voice vote*.

Ms. Willingham introduced the additional catalog changes for consideration.

Discussion: Dean McDowell commented that these changes would accompany any changes that come from the revision of the admissions process currently underway.

The proposal was *approved by voice vote*.

Graduate Commencement

There was discussion of possibly developing two separate smaller commencement ceremonies, one each for the Graduate Business and Graduate Education schools. Several potential dates and locations were discussed. Both school deans indicated they were leaning against having any receptions, due to social distancing concerns but did want to facilitate opportunities for the hooding of the graduates and photos taken with President Briggs. Dr. Boyd asked that a combined document be created with details about the proposal, highlighting any common and distinctive elements of the potential ceremonies.

Final item of note:

This is the final Graduate Council meeting with Dr. McDowell as Dean of the Charter school. The Council members expressed gratitude to Dean McDowell for her service to graduate education at Berry.

Next meeting: September 2020

Chair: Mary Boyd

Secretary: Bryce Durbin