

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 30, 2020 MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

3:30pm 5:00pm

PLACE: Zoom

PRESIDING: Donald G. Nieman, Provost & Interim Dean of the Graduate School

MEMBERS: Manoj Agarwal, Seden Akcinaroglu, Susan Bane, Christopher Bishop, David Campbell, Elizabeth Casteen, Nikolay Dimitrov, Guy German, Kimberly Jaussi, Sha Jin, Alistair Lees, Luiza Moreira, Andreas Pape, Sabina Perrino, Gail Rattinger, Nicole Rouhana, Nadia Rubaii, Kent Schull, Timothy Singler, Douglas Summerville, Nathan Tumey, Leo Wilton, Kaiming Ye

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Mary Beth Curtin, Nasrin Fatima, Curtis Kendrick, Gretchen Mahler, Erin Neske, Sara Reiter

EXCUSED/ABSENT:

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Provost Nieman called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

II. MINUTES

The minutes from the October 26, 2020 meeting are pending.

III. Report from Committees

Academic Standards Committee – Associate Dean, Gretchen Mahler, reported that this Committee met on November 9, 2020.

The committee reviewed the Graduate School bylaws. Sara Reiter shared guidelines from SUNY and the committee reviewed the current bylaws to make sure that we met all of SUNY's suggestions. This includes actions by executive committees between regularly scheduled meetings, special meetings when necessary, remote governance body meetings, mechanisms for voting, and clearly defined terms of office for elective governance leaders.

At the October Graduate Council meeting, we made some additions to the bylaws regarding

Program Revision

ISE Engineering Management Track - this is an addition to the Masters of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering and also to the combined BS and MS and IOC. This is a different way to offer this degree to students. The department has decided to add an engineering management track to the Master of Science and Industrial and Systems Engineering. This is the current registered program and the proposed management track which will heavily be from the SSI department. It would be a 30-credit degree. This would be the project option still with 30 credits, but with a slightly different number of courses. There is also a coursework only option where the students do a culminating project and a 600-level course as opposed to doing an individual project.

Tim asked if this would preclude other departments from offering management tracks in Watson. Gretchen stated you could still have a management track in Mechanical Engineering, for example, but they would have to differentiate for the students. Kim suggested making a change to the language by AMS. It should be more inclusive and include nonbinary. Donald suggested a friendly amendment. Following those modifications, explanations and friendly amendment, the Council voted and approved the amended proposal. No further approvals are necessary. The Department will be notified.

Advisory Committee for Scholarship and Research – This committee has not met.

Student Affairs/Budget Advisory Committee – Associate Dean, Gretchen Mahler, reported that this Committee met on November 9, 2020.

Clark Advisory Committee – This committee has not met.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Middle States Follow-up – Provost Nieman shared the Middle States reviewers report. We had no findings but did receive collegial advice on two things. This advice we don't have to do, but we should consider. One was the amount of time it takes for us to get new degrees to market and the second is the role of the Graduate Council. The reviewers had a hard time understanding why the council was so large, what it does, and why wasn't it more involved in graduate student professional development.

Don shared he has been in discussion, for a while, with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee about creating a joint faculty senate provost taskforce. The taskforce would be charged to look at the process we have for approving new graduate programs and graduate curriculum. The committee would also be charged to look at membership composition and responsibilities of the Graduate Council. One discussion that has come up is should there be a role for graduate directors on the Graduate Council. I don't think the suggestion is that the body be exclusively graduate directors, but I think part of the conversation has been should there be a portion of the Graduate Council that is reserved for graduate directors. Sara Reiter and Don will co-chair the committee, two members will be appointed by faculty senate executive committee, and the Graduate Council will appoint two members. Les asked about how to deal with joint programs that go across many disciplines. Don agreed this has been an issue. This could be something that we add to the to the charts.

Don would like to have this completed by the first of April. Vicki will get a call out for Volunteers and nominations to be submitted next week and then have the Graduate Council vote on them.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.

Minutes recorded by Vicki Griffin,
Senior Assistant to the Executive Vice President of Academic
Affairs, Provost, and Interim Dean of the Graduate School