MINUTES
GRADUATE BOARD
January 23, 2017

PRESENT: M. Deibis, M. Finney, B. Gaydos, T. Hemphill, B. Maki, A. Ojelabi (Student), K. Schilling, M. Sreckovic (Guest), S. Turner

ABSENT: C. Creech (ill), V. Lotfi, S. Selig (meeting conflict)

1. Minutes from January 9, 2017 were approved with one minor revision.

2. Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) Progress Report
   ▪ The Board reviewed the Progress Report submitted by the MSA program in response to challenges and opportunities identified in the preliminary review conducted during 2014-15 academic year.
   ▪ A plan to offer scholarship funds to incoming students was implemented in fall 2016.
   ▪ In response to the opportunity to pursue curricular changes to help attract additional students to the program and to make it viable to undergraduate BBA accounting students:
     o Additional faculty hires were completed so more elective courses could be offered.
     o Graduate/undergraduate courses were decoupled to enhance the course content at the graduate level.
     o Faculty are considering adding specialized tracks in the near future to attract more UM-F BBA accounting students.
     o They are continuing to work with SOM student advisors to counsel BBA accounting students about the MSA program early in their degree program.
   ▪ The Board discussed the recent decline in enrollment for the MSA program as winter 2017 enrollment was down to 26 students.
   ▪ The Board also discussed the credit hour requirements for students that sit for the CPA exam.
   ▪ The program reported that they continue to pursue opportunities to market the MSA program separately from the MBA.
   ▪ The program continues to monitor the academic success of students by monitoring MSA retention rates and GMAT/GPA scores and by working to recruit highly qualified students.
   ▪ The program faculty continue to review the results of the student satisfaction survey and have made adjustments to course offerings, schedules and formats to better accommodate students. They are also sharing best practices for the goal of improving student learning experiences during residencies.
   ▪ The Board discussed the SOM MSA Committee Report on MSA Assurance of Learning Results for 2015-2016. The report identified that there were two learning goals that were not met.
The assessment for Learning Goal 2: Written Communication was found to be deficient.

The assessment for Learning Goal 4: Ethical Analysis was missed.

The Board requests that the MSA program provide an update regarding the review of the effectiveness of assessments for Learning Goals 2 and 4 in September 2017 after 2016-17 data can be evaluated.

3. MA in Mathematics Full Program Review
   - Strengths of the MA in Mathematics program identified in the self-study report and by Board include:
     - The program reports that the average time for degree completion is approximately two years and does vary depending on the student demographics.
     - It is a low cost program that has stayed within the budget even after enrollment numbers leveled off from the initial offerings.
     - Students have advised that they are highly satisfied with the program.
     - The program has a dedicated group of terminally qualified faculty that are continually evolving course content to reflect student interests, abilities, and general trends in mathematical discourse.
     - The program has strong program leadership who collaborates closely with Graduate Programs staff and serves as the advisor for all students.
   - Opportunities/Challenges identified were:
     - The program is encouraged to continue to make changes needed to attract highly qualified students from diversified backgrounds.
     - The program has advised that they will continue to seek ways for the program to link student graduation success with success in entering the workforce and furthering their careers.
     - The program is encouraged to continue to collaborate with the Graduate Programs Office and with other schools/departments to look for ways to boost enrollment numbers.
   - The Board congratulates the program on a satisfactory program review.

4. Matters Arising
   - S. Selig has advised that she has been unable to regularly attend Graduate Board meetings due to a conflict with another meeting that was scheduled prior to her assignment to the Board. The chair of Faculty Council will be contacted to determine if a replacement can be found for her for the winter 2017 term.
     - Note – After the minutes were completed, S. Selig advised that there was no longer a meeting conflict, and she would be able to attend the rest of the Graduate Board meetings as scheduled.

Next meeting: 2/13/17 @ 2:00pm in the Graduate Programs Conference Room