MINUTES
GRADUATE BOARD
November 12, 2018

PRESENT:  M. Bohlen, C. Creech, M. Deibis, S. Drummond Lewis, M. Finney, T. Hemphill, S. Munir (student), S. Turner (Interim Associate Provost), J. Witt

ABSENT:  S. Selig, M. Straham (student)

1. The minutes of the 10/22/18 meeting were approved as presented.

2. It was reported that the notes taken at the 10/8/18 meeting will be called minutes even though there wasn’t quorum at the meeting.

3. 18-19 Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program Review
   ▪ C. Creech summarized the contents of the self-study report to the Board.
   ▪ There is strong demand for the online program that has received full accreditation until 2026. The program began as a face-to-face program in 1998 and was reformatted to an online accelerated program in 2011.
   ▪ The profession has indicated that entry level NPs be doctorally-prepared by 2025. This could impact the future of the current design of the MSN program as it prepares nurse practitioners at the master’s level.
   ▪ The MSN is a cohort-based 5 semester program that starts in January of each year. Students can participate either full-time or part-time. The part-time track was added 3-4 years ago.
   ▪ MSN applicants averaged 3.69 GPA in 2017-18.
   ▪ The MSN curriculum is intense and difficult.
   ▪ The students report high satisfaction with the program.
   ▪ Some program faculty are shared with the DNP program, but the MSN program does employ more adjunct faculty, which reduces the overall cost of the program.
   ▪ Tuition rates for the MSN are the same as the DNP.
   ▪ Certification pass rates are above the national average.
   ▪ A weakness identified by the program is that it is difficult to secure clinical sites for the MSN students. The Board acknowledged that a recommendation should be included to stress the importance that program continues to explore resources related to MSN clinical placements.
   ▪ Future plans include a new concentration in Nursing Administration.
   ▪ There was a motion to accept the MSN Program Review as written. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Review Draft Guidelines for Approval of New Graduate Programs Verbiage for New Programs & Content Overlap
   ▪ There was a discussion about the draft language presented to the Board.
There was a recommendation to simplify the guidelines and clarify certain terms to reduce ambiguity.

There was discussion about creating a ‘comment’ period to obtain faculty feedback during the new program proposal development stage.

There was a suggestion to research if other universities have a process for dealing with content overlap issues.

5. Matters Arising

- An Accounting (MSA) 19-20 Program Change Request was made available to the Graduate Board for informational purposes. The program requirements will change making ACC 555 a required course and ACC 525 an elective course.

- A Business Administration/Accounting (Dual MBA/MSA) 19-20 Program Change Request was made available to the Graduate Board for informational purposes. It was reflecting a change in the MSA program – adding ACC 555 to the list of required courses and adding ACC 525 to the list of elective courses.

Next meeting: 11/26/18 @ 2:00pm in the Graduate Programs Conference Room