

Graduate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2021
MEETING LOCATION: Online through Microsoft TEAMS

Present: Becky da Cruz, Herb Fiester (proxy for Matt Carter), Linda Most (proxy for Michelle Ritter), David Nelson, Kelly Heckaman, Luis Bejarano, Maren Clegg-Hyer, Dixie Haggard, Keith Lee, Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm, Mitch Lockhart, Zhong Lin, Matt Grant, Anne Price, Ellis Heath, Nancy Swanson, Peggy Moch, Christopher Downing, Michael Webster

Guests: Doug Farwell, Anita Davis, Ernest Smith, Justin Sanchez, Grazyna Walczak

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Becky da Cruz at 2:00 pm.

Minutes from March 18, 2021 were approved. Linda Most motioned to approve. Herb Fiester seconded. 14 voted to approve.

College of the Arts

Revised Catalog Copy – Master of Arts in Teaching in Music Education: Change for several reasons. Adapting to needs of students. A way to certify teachers already in field. Many placements are not in Valdosta so the need for online is growing. Program adaptations include (1) applying current evidenced-based practices that improve pre-service teacher capacity to provide diversity and inclusive practices, and (2) updated technologies supporting differing modalities of teaching and learning to provide equitable access and opportunities. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Linda Most seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a Curriculum Change – Masters of Arts in Teaching Music Education: Changes to the program provide alignment with current research and best practices while meeting standards required for accrediting agencies (NASM and CAEP). Revisions respond to the need for improving student scores for certification and their pedagogical knowledge and skills while updating program standards for impending program reviews. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Linda Most seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a Revised Course – MUSC 5520: Symphonic Literature I: Moves course into MAT program using appropriate MUE designation. Gives MAT candidates opportunity to learn string/orchestral repertoire needed to lead and program for middle school and high school ensembles. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Linda Most seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a Revised Course – MUSC 5521: Symphonic Literature II: Moves course into MAT program using appropriate MUE designation. Switches sequence of Symphonic Lit courses, moving survey of Western symphonic music to 5521. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Linda Most seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a Revised Course – MUE 7640: General Music Curriculum: This revision meets accrediting standards for General Music as found in the National Association of Schools of Music Standards for Accreditation Section VII.6 Teaching Competencies. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Linda Most seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a New Course – MUE 7650: Generalized Music Education II: This new course provides content required to meet accrediting standards for General Music as found in the National Association of Schools of Music Standards for Accreditation Section VII.6 Teaching Competencies. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Linda Most seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

College of Business Administration

Curriculum Change/Revised Catalog Copy – Georgia WebMBA Program (requirements):

Basically a name change from the Georgia WebMBA consortium. The reasons for this change are twofold: a) This change makes the course more marketable and current. More important, it accurately captures the essence of the content taught in the course. b) We are expanding our content and related discussions on business intelligence tools. Specifically, we will be adding a new chapter to our curriculum: Business Intelligence (BI) Tools for Data Analysis. This will also entail the creation of new videos, tutorials and other instructional material necessary to ensure effective student learning and success. This is partly made possible due to the adoption of a new text in consideration of point a: Business Analytics: Data Analysis and Decision Making, 7th Edition, ISBN: 9781305180819. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm seconded. 18 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a Revised Course – WMBA 6040: Managerial Decision Analysis: The reasons for this change are twofold: a) This change makes the course more marketable and current. More importantly, it captures the essence of the content taught in the course. b.) We are expanding our content and related discussions on business intelligence tools. Specifically, we will be adding a new chapter to our curriculum: Business Intelligence (BI) Tools for Data Analysis. This will also entail the creation of new videos, tutorials and other instructional material necessary to ensure effective student learning and success. This is partly made possible due to the adoption of a new text in consideration of point a: Business Analytics: Data Analysis and Decision Making, 7th Edition, ISBN: 9781305180819. Peggy Moch motioned to approve. Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm seconded. 18 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Sub Committee Report

- Graduate Student Success – Dr. Downing updated. Committee met and went over the survey results. 134 participants in the survey. Found out a lot of interesting results. Send Dr. Downing an email if you want the full report. One of Dr. Downing's students did a PowerPoint regarding the survey during the latest meeting. The survey was regarding what students would want to see in a Graduate Student Orientation. This will help the committee with developing an orientation for the Fall 2021 semester. One thing that they found was people were wanting to know about resources (how to get your ID, how to access Blazeview, etc.). Also looking into developing a mentoring program. One question that GEC asked Dr. Downing is what percentage are online programs vs. on campus. Dr. da Cruz noted that it is approximately 75% online students. It was discussed that hopefully we would be able to incorporate this percentage when looking into developing the orientation. For example, what services are just for online students, what services would someone need who is moving to the Valdosta area (campus classes), etc. Dr. Downing confirmed that the idea was to have separate groups for online students and one for face-to-face students.
- Doctoral Program Sub-Committee – N/A
- Graduate Appeals – Brief update. Still working on some of the bugs but are continuing to edit as we see various issues come up. One thing to note is that a best practice is to email outside the system if there are particular questions on a form because once you deny the form it would have to be restarted by the student.
- Graduate Faculty Scholarship – Spring 2021 applications are closed. We have moved back the date for next FY dates to try to get an earlier jump on the various applications in the Fall 21. We can review on an as needed basis if you have things over the summer. We will not be able to process anything until after July 1 at this point.
- Graduate Faculty Membership – Applications due March 12th, sub-committee met March 25th to discuss and vote. 13 were approved for full status, 2 recommended for temp. David Nelson motioned to approve. Linda Most seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.
 - The committee is looking to further simplify the Graduate Faculty application and to create more clarification. We will bring this up in the Fall after ironing out the specifics.

Other Business/Topics from the Floor

- 1) Commencement – Have had 11 volunteer to be marshals. It will be held outside on Saturday, May 8th in the morning. Will have social distancing, mask requirement, no hooding, etc. It will be just like the Fall 2020 ceremony. If you are planning on attending, please let us know. We are about two weeks out and this commencement will look slightly different. We will have our own commencement speakers (pre-recorded). It will not be the President and it will not be the undergrad speakers being re-played at our ceremony. We have our own specific speaker.

- 2) Graduation Application – Dr. da Cruz updated. How is it working? A few glitches of getting emails that something needs signing off but contacted the registrar and ironed it out. Most are saying that everything is running smooth.
- 3) Graduate Symposium – Dr. da Cruz updated. We will be receiving some of our stats from the symposium. We had around 70 participants throughout the 3-hour event for our average. Most of what has come in so far has been positive reactions. We are taking photos of our awards winners this coming week. We are going to send out a more official announcement to all of campus. Will convene the sub-committee to talk about Spring 2023 symposium. What did GEC think? Comments below:
 - Maybe look into quicker or better software that can run something of this capacity (not collaborate ultra which is much more for teaching and not presenting)
 - It went well!
 - Every virtual conference has had their issues
 - Make sure faculty advisors are assigned to the same breakout room as their students.
- 4) Graduate Assistantships – Dr. da Cruz updated. Sage is in the process of hiring Summer and Fall GA's. If you are needing to get students hired, we need to get them hired sooner rather than later. We have about half hired but we need to work on getting the rest done.
- 5) Graduate Admissions Updates – Dr. da Cruz updated. Working on all the April 1st and April 15th deadline programs. Lot of decisions have come in lately so they are working as quickly as possible to work those through the system. Everyone's patience is appreciated. If you are concerned about the status of any feel free to call Rebecca directly and she can check on those for you.
- 6) Marketing/Social Media – Ernest updated. We are still interviewing and posting on Facebook and Instagram. We will be in touch with more info as we get closer to finishing up those interviews we have already done. If you see anything you like or don't please keep that in mind when we interview. If you haven't already, please share with your students and check it out so we can get more traffic on the page.
- 7) AGS/SGA Updates – Justin Sanchez/Allison Carr – We are transitioning officers. Next time GEC meets there will be another President of AGS. Still looking for a VP and an Administration/Finance Officer to join the team. If anyone knows of any interested students have them email ags@valdosta.edu.
- 8) Items from the Floor?
 - a) We are still pushing forward with offering at the Waycross campus and moving forward on getting the MOU signed. Hope to have some face-to-face classes streamed to those campuses in the Fall.

- b) Smart Measures – Shared PowerPoint and talked briefly. It is surveying students on the non-cognitive issues that they may run into taking online courses. Issues they may confront when they sign up for online course. Survey questions like “Are you ready?” IT would be incorporated into Blazeview, doesn’t have to be mandatory. It is one of those things that can be very insightful for students and faculty in the program. Possibly put this on the Graduate School website. We will look further into this possibility.

Motion was made to adjourn at 3:16PM by Dr. Dixie Haggard. Dr. Linda Most seconded.

Next Meeting: August 19th (Next Academic Meeting TBD Fall 2021)

Ernest Smith

Ernest Smith, Recorder

Becky K. da Cruz

Becky K. da Cruz, Associate Provost for Graduate
Graduate Studies and Research