

Rhode Island College Graduate Committee Minutes

March 6th, 2020

Gaige Hall 005

Members Present: Michelle Barrus (Student Representative), Deb Britt, Monica Darcy (Chair), Elizabeth Holtzman, Ying Hui-Michael, Jenn Meade, Constance Milbourne, Kara Misto, Leslie Schuster (Non-voting), Joe Zornado

Absent: Leonardo Pinheiro

Guests: Alexis Gorton-Rogel (Minutes), Mikaila Arthur, Aswood Bousseau

(Proposals)

- I. Call to order
- II. Approve minutes from prior meeting (Britt, Hui-Michael)
Action: 7 Approved, 2 Abstention
- III. Report of Chair
 1. February 7, 2020 Grad Committee meeting was cancelled.
 - i. There were no pending curriculum proposals, but many in the pipeline for April meeting.
- IV. Report of Dean of Graduate Studies
 1. Grad Symposium
 - i. L. Schuster seeking ways to promote.
 2. Funding for student professional development is limited, but available and students can be encouraged to apply. Office of Graduate Studies will send out a reminder, as well.
 3. L. Schuster will investigate process for Summer 2020 program director summer load and will update as soon as possible to provide time for faculty to prepare.
- V. Old business
 1. Posthumous recognition on Grad Level; see below
- VI. New Business
 1. Proposals –
 - i. 1920_38 SWRK 655 New course, 1920_38 catalog SWRK 655 New course, 19_20_39 New CGS COD and MH, 19_20_39 catalog New CGS COD and MH *Bundled* (Ying, Meade)
 1. Addressing needs in the field to serve populations experiencing co-occurring disorders, especially with current Opioid crisis. Built initially through a grant to provide stipend, but Chair clarifies that program will continue after funding changes as a regular certificate.
 2. Builds on existing courses to address issues of co-occurring disorders.
Action: Approved Unanimously.
 - ii. 1920_40 SOC 535 New course/1920_40 catalog SOC 535 New course and MA Justice Studies (Britt, Meade)
 1. Has been running as a topics course, formalizing it as a course option while also allowing for development of more local options in applied work courses.
Action: Approved Unanimously
 2. Memorial Recognition of Graduate Achievement (Zornado, Britt)
 - i. Was tabled until UCC was approved and appeared in MAPP – which has now been updated.
Proposal for MAPP To be inserted after 10.5.f Posthumous Degrees
 1. Memorial Recognition of Graduate Achievement -

This recognition acknowledges the academic achievements of graduate degree students enrolled at the college at the time of their death and commemorates those achievements for the benefit of the students' families and the campus community. The graduate student must have been enrolled at the time of death, unless their continuous enrollment was interrupted by injury, illness or deployment and close to completion of degree requirements.

The provost or the designee with consultation with graduate advisor determines if the student qualifies for the awarding of memorial recognition of graduate achievement or a posthumous degree or certificate of certificate of graduate studies and forwards a recommendation to the president for final approval. The director of records updates the student's records and the bursar removes any outstanding balances, including loan cancellations.

i. Discussion

1. Chair shares that posthumous recognitions have been issued previously, but this is to provide guidelines and create consistent procedures.
2. There are many criteria to consider in the context of Grad Studies due to the difference in program credit and length. Committee discussed at length the issues of providing specific guidelines and/or different categories of completion, but ultimately feels it is important to recognize the impact specific guidelines could have on the grieving family members or community. Instead, the committee approves language that provides a framework while also being respectful and flexible to recognize the complexity of the issues and feelings of each individual student and their circumstances.

Action: Approved Unanimously.

VII. Tabled/future business

1. Provisional admit –address PS “coding”, matriculation, plan of study
2. Electronic signatures
3. Review/ revise comp, thesis, major project section of Grad Manual
4. Mission Statement

VIII. Adjournment (11:02am)

Spring 20 meeting dates
4/3; 5/1

Exec comm
3/20; 4/17

Graduate Committee page [HERE](#)

Grad Manual [HERE](#)