



## Minutes of the Graduate Board

*Thursday, March 21, 2013*

**Executive Conference Room  
Student Faculty Center  
Health Sciences Center Campus  
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

---

### **Members Present:**

William Aaronson, Jasim Albandar, Elizabeth Bolman, Jeffrey Draine, Daniel Funk, Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek, Michael Maynard, Swati Nagar, Paul Swann, Marla Wolfson

### **Ex-Officio Member:**

Zebulon Kendrick, Vice Provost, Graduate School

### **Graduate School Staff:**

Cheryl Jackson, Administrative Coordinator  
Kathryn Petrich-LaFevre, Director of Graduate Information  
Michael Toner, Associate Director for Graduate Enrollment and Data Management

### **Guest:**

Kevin Arceneaux, Department of Political Science, College of Liberal Arts  
Elizabeth Barber, Associate Dean, School of Tourism and Hospitality Management  
Edward Flanagan, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Center for the Arts/Boyer College of Music and Dance  
Melissa Gilbert, Department of Geography and Urban Studies, College of Liberal Arts  
Robert Kaufman, Department of Sociology, College of Liberal Arts

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

Swati Nagar motioned to approve the minutes of February 20, 2013. Jasim Albandar seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

### **Business:**

The first order of business was graduate degree programming. Five guests and one member of the Graduate Board offered details about proposed programmatic changes:

- For the Master of Tourism and Hospitality Management (M.T.H.M.), Elizabeth Barber noted a proposed change of array. The degree still requires 36 credits, but transcriptable concentrations are requested in Tourism and Hospitality Marketing and Hospitality Operations. An internship is now required, along with a management consulting project. Students would enroll in Fall and Spring coursework, complete a Summer internship, and then graduate in the Fall.
- Betsy Barber also explained that the M.S. in Sport and Recreation Management is to be terminated, while an M.S. in Sport Business is created. This change is requested to increase the marketability of the degree, which still requires 36 credits and an internship. Four concentrations are to be added: Athletic Administration, Recreation Management, Sport Analytics, and Sport Promotion and Sales.

- William Aaronson stated that Fox School of Business and Management proposes to establish an M.S. in Risk Management and Insurance. He noted that the degree was originally proposed as an online degree, but is also for distance learning.
- Bill Aaronson also discussed the establishment of a concentration in Human Resource Management and Organization Behavior for the Business Administration Ph.D. degree. He noted that the Human Resource Management Department wanted to withdraw from the Ph.D. program several years ago, but since then, four new faculty members have been hired.
- Edward Flanagan stated that Boyer College of Music and Dance proposes terminating the D.M.A. in Composition and establishing a Ph.D. in Music with four concentrations: Composition, Musicology, Studies, and Theory. This change is requested to increase the marketability of a doctoral degree in the Music Studies Department, which encompasses the four disciplines of Composition, History, Jazz Studies (undergraduate only), and Theory. The new Ph.D. in Music would require the completion of 42 to 52 credits, depending on the concentration.
- Kevin Arceneaux summarized the restructuring of the Ph.D. degree in Political Science. The total number of credits is reduced from 55 to 46, including 3 fewer dissertation credits required. Currently, students finish their coursework in the middle of the third year and begin the dissertation in the fourth year. Given that only four years of funding are guaranteed, many students are taking qualifying examinations before finishing their coursework. With the newly proposed format, students will take one research design course at the beginning of the third year and have the third and fourth years to work on their dissertation.
- Melissa Gilbert discussed terminating the Ph.D. degree in Urban Studies and establishing a Ph.D. in Geography and Urban Studies, which requires fewer non-didactic credits. This change is requested for four key reasons: better reflect the expertise of the doctoral faculty; ensure easier access to funding for students; match student expectations that the degree is in *Geography and Urban Studies*; and increase employment opportunities for program graduates.
- Robert Kaufman noted that the Ph.D. in Sociology is to be restructured to reduce the number of dissertation credits from 9 to 6 – and the total number of credits from 54 to 51 – to reduce the time to graduation.

When all guests had departed, the Vice Provost pointed out that numerous doctoral degree programs can be expected to restructure their culminating experience to include 6 credits in keeping with Graduate School policy. He noted that the change was made to reduce the time to graduation, which currently stands at 4.5 to 5.5 years for the College of Engineering, the School of Medicine, and the College of Science and Technology; 6.5 to 7 years for the social sciences; and 9 years for the humanities. William Aaronson motioned that proposals calling for the restructuring of the culminating experience for a doctoral degree program to 6 credits be approved by the Graduate School. Jasim Albandar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

William Aaronson next motioned to approve the eight proposed programmatic changes, including:

1. Establish two concentrations for the M.T.H.M. degree
2. Terminate the M.S. in Sport and Recreation Management and establish an M.S. in Sport Business with four concentrations
3. Establish an M.S. in Risk Management and Insurance
4. Establish a concentration in Human Resource Management and Organization Behavior for the Business Administration Ph.D. degree

5. Terminate the D.M.A. in Composition and establish a Ph.D. in Music with four concentrations
6. Restructure the Ph.D. degree in Political Science
7. Terminate the Ph.D. degree in Urban Studies and establish a Ph.D. in Geography and Urban Studies
8. Restructure the Ph.D. degree in Sociology

Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was an update on fellowship awards. Of the 61 offers, 18 awardees accepted, 4 declined, and 16 responded as uncertain. The Vice Provost observed that the number of acceptances is up from last year at the same time.

In old business, the Vice Provost returned to the graduate application and enrollment report. He stated that the report, which is intended for President Theobald and the Associate Deans, is nearly ready. Enrollment is not included as that is geared to the new RCM model. Dr. Kendrick noted that the weak spot in the report is the lack of undergraduate and graduate GPA reporting by the departments in Banner.

In new business, the Vice Provost raised two items:

1. Financial Responsibility Agreement: The University has instituted a new policy on tuition cancellation that requires students to “sign” a Financial Responsibility Agreement each semester when registering for classes online. Students will no longer be washed out of classes for non-payment of tuition. Instead, they are now financially responsible for paying for any courses for which they register and do not drop.
2. Yellow Ribbon: Departments fund scholarships for the military. The Veterans Administration will match institutional funding to bridge the gap when tuition is higher than GI funding.

It was asked if proposals for new programs will be generated under the RCM model. The Vice Provost said that he anticipated as much. It was further asked if general guidelines will be established for graduate programs. Dr. Kendrick suggested beginning with published criteria for undergraduate, graduate, and professional education.

Finally, the Vice Provost announced that the application deadline for the First Summers Research Initiative has been extended to March 29, 2013.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned @ 3:55 p.m.

The next Graduate Board meeting will be held on Main Campus, 3B Conwell Hall, on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, @ 2:30 p.m.