# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

 December 9, 2015, GBB 225, 12:10 – 1:00 PM

*Members Present:* B. Bach, F. Brown, C. Dumke, L. Gray, J. Johnson, A. Kinch, G. Lind, C. Stanick, K. Swift
*Members Absent/Excused:* R. Arouca L. Broberg, X. Chu, L. Frey T. Gupta, C. Orion, C. Palmer,

*Ex Officio Members Present:* J. Lane S. Ross, S. Whittenburg

## Call to Order

* The minutes from 12/2/15 were approved.

## Communication

* The Graduate Council’s letter in response to the President’s budget forum was sent to senators of the Faculty Senate. It resulted in a few additional comments that were forwarded to the Commissioner of Higher Education and the administration. The Commissioner sent a letter in response. Camie will forward the letter to the Council members.
* Service Learning courses are reviewed every four years to retain the designation. These are reported to ASCRC, but also include graduate courses. ASCRC wanted Graduate Council to be aware of this process. The graduate courses renewed this year were FORS 544 *Advanced Prescribed Fire Practicum* and CSD 560 *Language & Learning Disorders in School-Age Children.* Many of the courses approved are also UG. Any revisions to the courses involved the service learning component not the course content. The Council was confident that these courses have appropriate rigor given the oversight by the Service Learning Advisory Committee and Andrea Vernon… title.

## Business Items

* ASCRC revised the Credit Hour Policy. It was put in place during the accreditation review for compliance. Chair Kinch spoke to ASCRC Chair Tim Manuel regarding the revisions. The policy sets the minimum threshold. Programs may require more hours. The Council approved the revision.
* After discussion the Council approved the PhD in Public Health with one abstention. Vice President Whittenburg spoke to the Provost regarding funding for the program. The program should generate enough revenue for the university with the anticipated mix of students to be funded. It may be helpful in the future for the Provost to provide the budget analysis to the curriculum committees. He did not promise the program it would be able to keep the revenue from their out-of-state students. It would be helpful to have a transparent policy for funding new academic programs.

Although the program is not on the consent agenda, it is possible a motion could come from the floor to amend the consent agenda to include the item. Chair Kinch will inform the requestors of this possibility. Otherwise the item will not be on the Board of Regents agenda until May.

* Chair Kinch asked for input regarding how to present the curriculum consent agenda for the items that generated significant discussion and required follow-up information from the requestors. He believes there will be a general sense to move on to discussion of the budget situation. Chair Kinch will inform the Senate of the additional effort involved with the level II proposals, but the Council approved them after additional clarification and revision.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.