

Academic Council Meeting

April 14, 2014

3:30-5:00, McKenna Hall

1. Prayer: Matthew Capdeveille

2. Approval of the minutes of the Academic Council meeting of February 17, 2014 (see attachment 1)

3. Summary of actions taken by the Executive Committee of the Academic Council (April 3)
 - Changes were approved to the policy for postdoctoral appointments to reflect the change in location and reporting structure for postdoctoral scholars from the Office of Research to the Graduate School.

 - Changes were approved to the Academic Code of the Graduate School. These include clarification of the following issues: At the request of General Counsel, an explicit statement about how credit is assigned in the Graduate School; nomenclature of programs concentrated in the summer; procedures for determining a student's readiness to resume academic work following withdrawal for health purposes; providing a definition of "in residence"; and minor editing changes for readability (passive voice changed to active voice, etc.). In addition, for consistency, the grievance and appeals policy was moved out of the Code and placed alongside all other policies for the Graduate School --It was the only policy that resided in the code, and no changes to the policy itself were made.

These changes were vetted and approved by the Advanced Studies Committee of the Advisory Council. The executive committee reviewed these changes and deemed them sufficiently minor that they could act on them without them needing to go to the full Academic Council for approval.

4. Proposed Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates: Cathy Pieronek (see attachment 2)

5. Proposal by the Ad Hoc Committee on Physical Education Requirement Alternatives: Hugh Page (see attachment 3)

Committee meetings:

Advanced Studies (Cindy Bergeman): no meeting

Faculty Affairs (Jeff Kantor): Prof. Kantor will be in touch with members about a meeting

Undergraduate Studies (Kevin Dreyer): no meeting