

HSAC Faculty Committee Meeting Minutes
12/9/14 @ 1:30 PM
122 Frazier Rogers Hall

Attendees:

Damian Adams
Bin Gao
Wendy Graham
Jim Jawitz
David Kaplan
Chris Martinez
Lou Motz
Liz Screamton

Meeting began at 1:30 PM.

1. New members Liz Screamton and Bin Gao were welcomed to the Committee. Wendy Graham provided them a brief overview of the faculty committee process.
2. Minutes from prior meetings on December 5, 2013 and January 21, 2014 were brought up for approval.
Motion to approve: Wendy Graham
Second: Lou Motz
Objections: None
3. The issue of adding Building Construction to the approved Departments list was brought up. Chris Martinez stated that the department has been unresponsive to his requests for action. It was discussed that although the student in question is graduating this semester, it would be beneficial to pursue adding the Department for future students.
Action Item: Chris Martinez will contact the Building Construction faculty member (Robert Ries) to pursue the necessary approvals for addition to the Hydrologic Sciences Concentration.
4. Chris Martinez asked faculty members to review the curriculum in the area of representation and provide any updates, deletions or new course information as appropriate.
5. A new student application from M. Thiemann was brought up for review and approval. This is a Masters thesis student whose advisor is Mike Annable. The student has selected courses from the approved curriculum list for Topic areas 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 and two advisors are affiliate members of HSAC. Application meets requirements and was approved.
Motion to approve: David Kaplan
Second: Lou Motz
Objections: None
6. An issue with a pending student application was brought up for discussion. The student application was received in the semester of projected graduation. Correspondence was sent to advisor and HSAC Chair about the need for an exception to the application procedures because of the projected graduation date. No response was received. A second correspondence was sent recently asking for an update on the situation and advising that the student has the HSD concentration designation in their GIMS record, but has not met curriculum requirements (as of Summer 2014). No response has been received to date.
Action Item: Chris Martinez will contact the advisor for an update on the issue and removal of the GIMS designation from the student's record if appropriate.

7. The need to meet twice a year was brought up for discussion. Chris Martinez stated that he thought that each meeting would be a good opportunity for faculty members to review the approved curriculum in their topic area for updates/deletions/additions.
8. A discussion was held on the usefulness of having the HSD Concentration designation on a student's transcripts. Jim Jawitz said he advised his students that having the concentration in their transcripts showed they had a broad educational background in addition to their specific research areas.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 2:00 PM: David Kaplan

Second: Bin Gao

Objections: None